SATURDAY
October 14, 2023

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
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THE HINDU

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India to make chips under public-private partnership

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SC raps Speaker for 'disregarding' orders

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The river runneth over

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NEARBY

KEA blocks three students

BENGALURU
Three students have been blocked by the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) for allegedly being involved in illegal activities. » Page 7

City's waste to be dumped in Ramanagara

BENGALURU
The State government has decided to carry waste from the city to Ramanagara, besides Bengaluru Urban and Bengaluru Rural districts.

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Israel tells Palestinians to leave northern Gaza

Military's unprecedented order ahead of a possible ground invasion triggers panic and mass exodus towards southern part; Hamas dismisses order as a ploy and tells people to stay on

Associated Press
JERUSALEM

Palestinians began a mass exodus from northern Gaza on Friday after Israel's military told some one million people to evacuate toward the southern part of the besieged territory, an unprecedented order ahead of an expected ground invasion against the ruling Hamas militant group.

The United Nations warned that so many people fleeing *en masse* – almost half the Gaza population – would be calamitous.

Hamas, which staged a shocking and brutal attack on Israel nearly a week ago and has fired thousands of rockets since, dismissed the evacuation order as a ploy and called on people to stay in their homes.

Forced relocation: Palestinians flee after the Israeli Army's warning to leave their homes, in Gaza City on Friday. AFP

The evacuation order, which applies to Gaza City, home to hundreds of thousands of Palestinians, sparked widespread panic among civilians and aid workers already running from Israeli airstrikes and contending with a total siege of Gaza.

Israel has cut off all food, water and supplies and caused a territory-wide blackout.

"Forget about food, forget about electricity, forget about fuel. The only concern now is just if you'll make it, if you're going to live," said Nebal Farsakh, a spokesperson for the Palestinian Red Crescent in Gaza City. The war has already claimed over 3,000 lives on both sides and sent tensions soaring across the region.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12
BALANCING POLICY
» PAGE 10

Conflicts are not in anyone's interest: Modi

NEW DELHI
Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday said terrorism, for any reason, is against humanity. "[The world] is grappling with conflicts and confrontations, such a world full of conflicts and confrontations is not in anyone's interest." » PAGE 13

Huge cash recovered in I-T raids on contractor in city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Income Tax sleuths raided the properties linked to a prominent contractor in the city in the early hours of Friday and recovered cash, speculated to be over ₹40 crore.

The contractor, R. Ambikapathy, is the office-bearer of multiple contractors' associations in Karnataka that had made the "40% commission" allegation against the previous BJP regime.

He was also one of the contractors arrested following a criminal defamation case filed by the former Minister, Munirathna, over corruption allegations and later released. Houses of several other contractors are also learnt to have been searched.

The raids have led to a political slugfest between the ruling Congress, and the BJP and the Janata Dal (Secular). Even as Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar has termed the raids "politically motivated", the BJP and the JD (S) have alleged that the recovery of cash from the contractor, in the run-up to the elections in five States, indicated it was "commission" from contractors meant to "fund the polls".

The cash found during Income Tax raids on the properties linked to contractor R. Ambikapathy in Bengaluru on Friday.
SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

From under the bed

While speculations were rife that the recovery was to the tune of over ₹40 crore, I-T sleuths were tight-lipped and there was no independent confirmation of the amount seized.

However, sources said the money was stashed in over 20 cardboard boxes and kept under a bed in a flat at Sultanpalya where Pradeep, a close relative of Mr. Ambikapathy, lived. The flat was raided in the wee hours of Friday, as an alleged attempt to shift the money was under way.

CONTINUED ON
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RELATED REPORT
» PAGE 8

'Many will choose public transit if bus, metro are available'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A study conducted by the Indian Institute of Science's Centre for Infrastructure, Sustainable Transportation, and Urban Planning has revealed that nearly 60% of commuters in Bengaluru would opt for public transport if both buses and the metro were readily available.

The research was conducted with the objective of improving the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation's planning and operations.

The study also found that bus routes with high overlap with metro lines lose riders to the metro. "Our models can be used to determine the extent of beneficial overlap for different levels of demand and supply," says the research.

DETAILS ON
» PAGE 4

Goods exports down, but Aug. trade tally brings a turnaround

Vikas Dhoot
NEW DELHI

Even though goods exports declined for the seventh time in eight months in September, India's weak foreign trade performance so far this year appeared to be turning around as per data released by the Commerce Ministry on Friday, which included revisions worth over $5 billion to August's trade tally.

While goods exports dipped 2.6% from last September to hit a three-month low of $34.47 billion, imports dropped by a sharper 15% to $53.84 billion, and were 10.4% below August's updated import bill of $60.1 billion, which marked an 11-month high.

August's exports were ramped up by a record $4 billion to $38.45 billion, the highest in five months and reflecting a 3.88% growth over last August.

After six months

This was the first uptick after six months of contraction and Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal expressed hope that the second half of 2023-24 will bring sustained growth in goods exports.

CONTINUED ON
» PAGE 12

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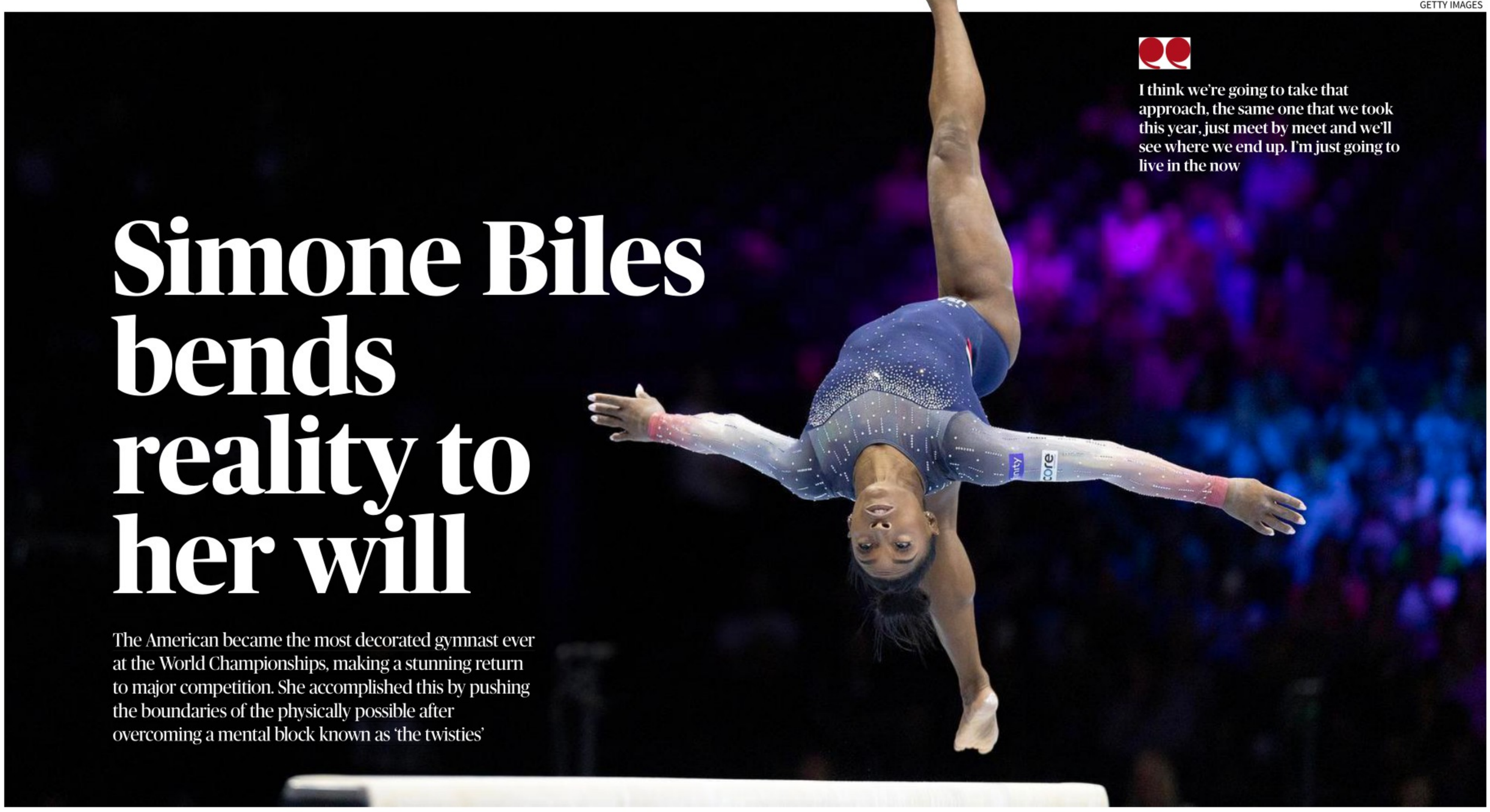
GETTY IMAGES



Simone Biles bends reality to her will

The American became the most decorated gymnast ever at the World Championships, making a stunning return to major competition. She accomplished this by pushing the boundaries of the physically possible after overcoming a mental block known as 'the twisties'

> I think we're going to take that approach, the same one that we took this year, just meet by meet and we'll see where we end up. I'm just going to live in the now

Associated Press
Agence France-Presse

Merely taking inventory of Simone Biles' medal cabinet is exhausting. So you can imagine the sheer volume of work that must have gone into scaling a peak no other gymnast has summited.

At the Artistic Gymnastics World Championships, which concluded in Antwerp recently, Biles increased her World and Olympics medal tally to 37, making her the most decorated gymnast ever – male or female – at the sport's two signature events ahead of the retired Vitaly Scherbo. This haul includes an astounding 23 World and 4 Olympic gold medals.

Back on top

By the time the American superstar left the Flemish port city, she had proven that she was back at the top of world gymnastics again, less than three months after returning to competition – she had taken a two-year hiatus from the sport to protect her mental health.

Biles tied the all-time record for all-around World titles by winning her sixth, clinched a sixth World floor championship, a discipline where she remains undefeated, sealed the balance beam title for a fourth time with a dazzling routine, led the US women to a record seventh straight victory in the team event and collected a silver on vault.

There was a sense of "life coming full circle", for it was at Antwerp 10 years ago that Biles started her collection of World titles as a 16-year-old.

Asked if she had thought about her legacy – and how her record-breaking return to the international stage had added to it – Biles said, "Everyday I try to think about it, especially in therapy when we talk about it. And I think that's when all the emotions come up. But I don't think it will hit me until I retire and then look back and see everything I've done."

> I had to prove to myself that I could still get out here and twist. I could prove all the haters wrong. As long as I'm out there finding the joy for gymnastics again, who cares?

A significant aspect of her legacy is her success in pushing the sport's boundaries. The acrobatics that Biles tries are so extreme and difficult that even when she does not execute them to perfection, she still ends up on a World podium. Her vault silver at this year's Championships came after she over-rotated her signature Yurchenko double pike and fell backwards on the mat on landing.

Conquering the unconquerable

Biles had become the first woman to land the Yurchenko double pike – a vault so daunting few men have attempted it – in international competition at the World Championships during qualifying. As a result, the vault is now named the Biles II.

Although she couldn't pull it off in the vault final, the start value of the Biles II is so high that even the fall did not hurt her chances of medalling. Indeed, Biles even took a half-point deduction because her longtime coach Laurent Landi stood on the mat as a precaution, ready to assist her in case something went wrong.

Landi had also watched, at close quarters, the perfect Yurchenko double pike (then yet to be named the Biles II) at the US Championships in August. He had stood on the mat, arms slightly outstretched, as Biles soared through the air, her arms clasped behind her knees, her legs at a perfect 90-degree angle from her body. She rotated expertly and landed with a small hop.

Landi could only shake his head when asked if a Yurchenko double pike was supposed to look that easy. "No, it's not normal," he said. "She's not normal. She's one of the rare gymnasts that goes to meets and does it even better under pressure."

At the Worlds, Brazil's Rebeca Andrade, one of Biles' biggest rivals, beat the American to gold in vault, but was disappointed to witness Biles failing in her quest for perfection. Asked whether she would try the Yurchenko double pike in competition, Andrade said it would be a "crazy" thing to do. "I don't have the body for that," she added.

The 4'8" Biles now has five skills named after her – two on the floor exercise, two on vault, and one on the balance beam – a testament to her contribution to the sport's advancement.

What makes Biles' pursuit of the physically impossible all the more remarkable is her battle with a mental block known as 'the twisties' – a temporary condition whereby gymnasts lose their sense of where they are in the air, increasing the risk of injury when they land.

'The twisties' had badly affected her Tokyo Olympics. She withdrew from four of five individual finals in Japan, taking team gold (despite pulling out midway through the competition) and beam bronze. Biles then stopped training completely and only returned to competition in August.

Biles said the therapy sessions and the breathing and visualisation exercises she has been doing on a regular basis since have helped her recover. "I was so much more nervous for team finals [at the Worlds] because that's when everything occurred [in Tokyo], so I was a little bit traumatised from that. I was a little bit worried, but I know that I've been trained properly and that whatever happens, happens, so I wasn't too worried about medal count or medal colour.

"It's like as long as I get out there, do those routines again, it's a win in my book. I had to prove to myself that I could still get out here and twist. I could prove all the haters wrong, that I'm not a quitter. As long as I'm out there twisting and finding the joy for gymnastics again, who cares?"

Extraordinary longevity

At 26, Biles was the oldest American woman in Antwerp and the first American to participate in six World Championships, a sign of her extraordinary longevity.

"I'm not like 16 anymore, everything feels different," she said. "It's not so carefree. Staying at the top and just pushing day in, day out is a little bit harder because I'm older, my body is tired and everybody's like, 'Gosh she looks great' and I'm like, 'I feel I'm going to die sometimes.'"

With the Paris Olympics less than a year away, Biles is back to her very best. And despite the fierce competition, she remains a cut above the rest. Her coach, Landi, said Biles doesn't want to speak in detail about the Games yet to protect herself and avoid the pressure. "But for us as coaches it's obviously the goal," he said. "And we will get her ready for that, if she wants it."

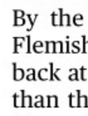
Biles' new "whatever happens, happens" attitude has served her well on her comeback. It's an approach she will retain on the road leading to Paris 2024. "I think we're going to take that approach, the same one that we took this year, just meet by meet and we'll see where we end up," she said. "I can't answer any questions for the future, I'm just going to live in the now."

STACKING UP

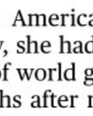
ATP Men's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Novak Djokovic	36	11,545	18
2	Carlos Alcaraz	20	8,715	18
3	Daniil Medvedev	27	7,490	22
4	Jannik Sinner	22	4,910	22
5	Holger Rune	20	4,640	21
6	Stefanos Tsitsipas	25	4,615	24
7	Andrey Rublev	25	4,550	26
8	Taylor Fritz	25	3,865	27
9	Casper Ruud	24	3,605	24
10	Alexander Zverev	26	3,450	23
11	Alex de Minaur	24	2,685	25
12	Tommy Paul	26	2,660	26
13	Frances Tiafoe	25	2,645	23
14	Karen Khachanov	27	2,385	21
15	Felix Auger-Aliassime	23	2,340	23

Top Indians ▶



Sumit Nagal
Rank 157 ▲ 4 spots



Mukund Sasikumar
Rank 424 ▲ 2 spots

WTA Women's Top 15

#	Player	Age	Points	Events
1	Aryna Sabalenka	25	9,480	18
2	Iga Swiatek	22	8,890	20
3	Coco Gauff	19	6,455	21
4	Jessica Pegula	29	5,955	21
5	Elena Rybakina	24	5,870	18
6	Maria Sakkari	28	4,475	25
7	Ons Jabeur	29	4,150	20
8	Marketa Vondrousova	24	3,839	18
9	Karolina Muchova	27	3,664	16
10	Caroline Garcia	29	3,450	28
11	Madison Keys	28	2,940	19
12	Daria Kasatkina	26	2,830	26
13	Jelena Ostapenko	26	2,665	22
14	Petra Kvitova	33	2,660	18
15	Belinda Bencic	26	2,605	19

Top Indians ▶

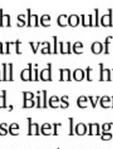
Ankita Raina
Rank 198 ▲▼ No change

Karman Thandi
Rank 235 ▼ 3 spots

F1 Drivers' standings

#	Driver	Team	Points	Wins
1	Max Verstappen	Red Bull	433	14
2	Sergio Perez	Red Bull	224	2
3	Lewis Hamilton	Mercedes	194	0
4	Fernando Alonso	Aston Martin	183	0
5	Carlos Sainz	Ferrari	153	1
6	Charles Leclerc	Ferrari	145	0
7	Lando Norris	McLaren	136	0
8	George Russell	Mercedes	132	0
9	Oscar Piastri	McLaren	83	0
10	Lance Stroll	Aston Martin	47	0
11	Pierre Gasly	Alpine	46	0
12	Esteban Ocon	Alpine	44	0
13	Alex Albon	Williams	23	0
14	Valtteri Bottas	Alfa Romeo	10	0
15	Nico Hulkenberg	Haas	9	0
16	Zhou Guanyu	Alfa Romeo	6	0
17	Yuki Tsunoda	AlphaTauri	3	0
18	Kevin Magnussen	Haas	3	0
19	Liam Lawson	AlphaTauri	2	0
20	Logan Sargeant	Williams	0	0

Max Verstappen



Sergio Perez

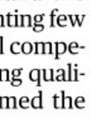
F1 Constructors' standings

Pos	Team	Points	Wins
1	Red Bull	657	16
2	Mercedes	326	0
3	Ferrari	298	1
4	Aston Martin	230	0
5	McLaren	219	0
6	Alpine	90	0
7	Williams	23	0
8	Alfa Romeo	16	0
9	Haas	12	0
10	AlphaTauri	5	0

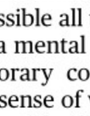
Badminton Men's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	Viktor Axelsen	107,455	15
2	Anthony Sinisuka Ginting	86,611	20
3	Kodai Naraoka	83,532	24
4	Shi Yu Qi	80,174	21
5	Kunlavut Vitidsarn	79,778	17
6	Li Shi Feng	78,548	23
7	Jonatan Christie	78,171	18
8	Prannoy H.S.	76,665	22
9	Loh Kean Yew	71,062	24
10	Anders Antonsen	64,510	16
11	Chou Tien Chen	62,117	25
12	Lu Guang Zu	61,860	20
13	Kenta Nishimoto	60,507	25
14	Lee Zii Jia	60,176	23
15	Lakshya Sen	60,068	22

Top Indians ▶



Prannoy H. S.
Rank 8



Lakshya Sen
Rank 15

Badminton Women's ranking

#	Player	Points	Events
1	An Se Young	113,314	17
2	Akane Yamaguchi	100,717	18
3	Chen Yu Fei	94,796	16
4	Tai Tzu Ying	88,486	16
5	He Bing Jiao	85,074	18
6	Carolina Marin	80,870	17
7	Gregoria Mariska Tunjung	69,354	24
8	Ratchanok Intanon	67,623	18
9	Han Yue	64,108	23
10	Beiwen Zhang	60,710	22
11	Wang Zhi Yi	59,390	18
12	Pornpawee Chochuwong	55,729	23
13	P.V. Sindhu	55,370	20
14	Busanan Ongbamrungphan	54,444	17
15	Zhang Yi Man	53,874	21

Top Indians ▶

P.V. Sindhu
Rank 13

Aakarshi Kashyap
Rank 41

Test Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Kane Williamson	883	919
2	Joe Root	859	923
3	Steve Smith	842	947
4	Babar Azam	829	882
5	Marnus Labuschagne	826	937
6	Travis Head	818	884
7	Usman Khawaja	796	847
8	Daryl Mitchell	792	800
9	Harry Brook	773	773
10	Rohit Sharma	759	813

Test Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	R. Ashwin	879	904
2	Kagiso Rabada	825	902
3	Ravindra Jadeja	782	899
4	Stuart Broad	776	880
5	Pat Cummins	775	914
6	Shaheen Afridi	762	836
6	Ollie Robinson	762	820
8	James Anderson	761	903
9	Nathan Lyon	760	799
10	Jasprit Bumrah	756	835

ODI Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Babar Azam	835	898
2	Shubman Gill	830	847
3	Rassie van der Dussen	758	796
4	Harry Tector	729	729
4	David Warner	729	880
6	Quinton de Kock	724	813
7	Virat Kohli	715	911
8	Dawid Malan	711	711
9	Imam-ul-Haq	705	815
10	Heinrich Klaasen	698	709

ODI Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Josh Hazlewood	682	733
2	Mohammed Siraj	664	736
3	Trent Boult	650	775
4	Mujeeb Ur Rahman	648	712
5	Matt Henry	647	691
6	Rashid Khan	643	806
7	Mitchell Starc	632	783
8	Kuldeep Yadav	622	765
9	Mohammad Nabi	621	657
10	Adam Zampa	617	670

T20I Batting

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Suryakumar Yadav	863	910
2	Mohammad Rizwan	787	875
3	Aiden Markram	756	796
4	Babar Azam	734	896
5	Rilee Rossouw	702	724
6	Dawid Malan	691	915
7	Muhammad Waseem	675	716
8	Jos Buttler	666	674
9	Aaron Finch	660	900
10	Reeza Hendricks	657	661

T20I Bowling

#	Player	Rating	Career best
1	Rashid Khan	692	816
2	Wanindu Hasaranga	679	797
2	Adil Rashid	679	746
4	Maheesh Theekshana	677	684
5	Josh Hazlewood	670	806
6	Sam Curran	659	688
7	Fazalhaq Farooqi	657	692
7	Adam Zampa	657	743
9	Mujeeb Ur Rahman	656	745
10	Akeal Hosein	655	681

IN THE COURT OF XVI ADDITIONAL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BANGALORE

OS NO. 4156 of 2023, CCH – 12

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PERFORMANCEGURUS SERVICES PRIVATE LIMITED,
#187, Royal Hermitage, Gottigere, Bannerghatta Road, Bengaluru - 560 083.

Whereas the above named Plaintiff instituted a suit against you seekinga decree of permanent injunction restraining you or your representatives from broadcasting, distributing, disseminating, publishing, transmitting or otherwise sharing any defamatory information, content or material against the Plaintiff; directions for taking down and deleting the defamatory information or content or material, which has already been broadcasted; directions for furnishing an unconditional public apology and paying damages worth **Rs. 10,00,00,000/- (Rupees Ten Crores Only)** with interest from the date of the suit till realization, to the Plaintiff.

You are hereby summoned to appear before this Court on **November 03, 2023 at 11:00 AM** in person or through Advocate/Pleader to answer the questions to the same. Failing which, the suit will be heard and determined as ex parte.

Given under my hand & seal of the Court, this 25th Sept., 2023.

By Order of Court, **Asst. Registrar**
City Civil Court, Bangalore

Mr. Lomesh Kiran Nidumuri, Partner
Cyril Amarchand Mangaldas
3rd Floor, Prestige Falcon Tower, Brunton Road, Bengaluru – 560 025

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ

ಸರ್ ಸಿದ್ದಪ್ಪ ಕಂಬಳಿ ರಸ್ತೆ ದೂರವಾಣಿ : 2213898, 2213888 website : www.hdmc.gov.in

ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಯೋಜನೆ) ಕಛೇರಿ

ಇ–ಟೆಂಡರ ಅಧಿಸೂಚನೆ (ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ಮಾತ್ರ)

ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆಯ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆದೇಶ 1999–2000ರ ಪ್ರಕಾರ ಆ್ಯಕ್ಟ್ 2000 ನಿಯಮದಂತೆ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಬಿಡ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ ಕೆಡಬ್ಲ್ಯೂ–2 ನಿಯಮಗಳನ್ವಯ ಈ ಕೆಳಕಾಣಿಸಿದ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳಿಗೆ ಸನ್ 2023–24 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ ಅನುದಾನದಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಲು ಇಚ್ಛೆಯುಳ್ಳ PWD/ HDMC/ಇತರೇ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೊಂದಾಯಿತರಾದ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರು/ಸಂಸ್ಥೆಯವರಿಂದ Work ಟೆಂಡರನ್ನು ಏಕ ವಿದ್ಯುನ್ಮಾನ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪದ್ಧತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ (Single Electronic Tender System) ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ **(kppp)** ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. ಒಂದು ವೇಳೆ ತಾಂತ್ರಿಕ ಕಾರಣಗಳಿಂದ ಸದರಿ ಟೆಂಡರಿನಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದಾದರೂ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯಾದಲ್ಲಿ, ಸದರಿ ಬದಲಾವಣೆಯ ವಿವರಗಳನ್ನು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಪಬ್ಲಿಕ್ ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಮಾತ್ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವುದು. ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ ಸಂಪೂರ್ಣ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ / ದಾಖಲೆಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಅಂತರ್‌ಜಾಲ ವಿಳಾಸ **http://www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **17/10/2023** ರಿಂದ ಪಡೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

(1) ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : **DMA/2023-24/RD/WORK_INDENT5235** ಟೆಂ.ಮೊ ರೂ. **46.60 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು** / ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊ. ರೂ. **93200/–** ಅವಧಿ 03 ತಿಂಗಳು / ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ. (2) ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : **DMA/2023-24/RD/WORK_INDENT5236** / ಟೆಂ. ಮೊ.ರೂ. **46.80 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು** / ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊ. ರೂ. **93600/–** ಅವಧಿ 03 ತಿಂಗಳು / ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ. (3) ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: **DMA/2023-24/RD/WORK_INDENT5245** ಟೆಂ. ಮೊ. ರೂ. **46.80 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು** / ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊ. ರೂ. **93600/–** ಅವಧಿ 03 ತಿಂಗಳು / ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ (4) ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಇಂಡೆಂಟ್ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ : **DMA/2023-24/RD/WORK_INDENT5249** / ಟೆಂ. ಮೊ. ರೂ. **46.50 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು** / ಇಎಂಡಿ ಮೊ. ರೂ. **93000/–** ಅವಧಿ 03 ತಿಂಗಳು / ಸಾಮಾನ್ಯ. (a) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಕುರಿತು ಯಾವುದಾದರೂ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳಿದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **24/10/2023** (ಕಛೇರಿ ವೇಳೆಯಲ್ಲಿ) ಒಳಗಾಗಿ ಲಿಖಿತವಾಗಿ / ಇ–ಮೇಲ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ (projecthdmc1@gmail.com) ಅಥವಾ ಖುದ್ದಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಯೋಜನೆ) ರವರ ಕಚೇರಿಗೆ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸತಕ್ಕದ್ದು. ತಡವಾಗಿ ಬಂದ ಆಕ್ಷೇಪಣೆಗಳನ್ನು ಗಣನೆಗೆ ತೆಗೆದುಕೊಳ್ಳಲಾಗುವುದಿಲ್ಲ. (b) ಟೆಂಡರ ಸ್ವೀಕರಿಸುವ ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **07–11–2023** ರಂದು 16:00:00 ಘಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ (c) ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ : **08–11–2023** ರಂದು 16:30:00 ಘಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ಧಾರವಾಡ/ಕೆಎಸ್ಎಂಸಿಎ/383/2023–24

ಸಹಿ/– ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು (ಯೋಜನೆ),
ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ–ಧಾರವಾಡ ಮಹಾನಗರ ಪಾಲಿಕೆ, ಹುಬ್ಬಳ್ಳಿ

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ಪುರಸಭೆ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಕಾಪು–574106

TOWN MUNICIPAL COUNCIL, KAUP - 574 106 Taluk: Kapu District: Udupi
ಕಛೇರಿ ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 0820–2551061 ಇ–ಮೇಲ್ : itstaff_ulb_kaup@yahoo.com
ಪ್ಲಾಸ್ಟಿಕ್ ಮುಕ್ತ ನಗರ–ಕಾಪು
ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ.: ಪುಸಕಾ/ನೈ.ವಿ./ಕೊಟೇಶನ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ/14/2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 12–10–2023

Enquiry Quotation

Kaup Town Municipal Council, Udupi district, Karnataka is inviting Enquiry Quotation for their Yellur Land Fill site Environment Clerance under Environment (Protection) Act-1974 and EIA notification-2006. The Eligible agencies having prior experience in EIA study and has been certified by Quality Control of India-NABET and concerned Government agencies can quote their break up and Total rates (Including GST and all taxes if any and all expenses incurred to get EC certificate) on or before **19/10/2023 at 04:00 PM t**o Kaup Town Municipal Council, Udupi district, Karnataka-574106. The quotations received after the said date and time will not be accepted. The received Quotations will be opened at 05:00 PM on the same day infront of the tenderer in Kaup TMC office. For more information please contact **0820-2551061**or dropyour mail at **ka.kaup.tmc@gmail.com**

DIPR/ADU/KSMCA/336/23-24 Dt.13.10.2023

Sd/-, Chief officer,
Kaup Town Municipal Council

KARNATAKA NEERAVARI NIGAM LIMITED

(A Government of Karnataka Enterprise)
Office: 08336-222163 e-mail:eekpdkhanapur@gmail.com

SHORT TERM: PERCENTAGE TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through KPP Portal only)

The tender invited under this office Notification No: This Office Tender Notification No:EE/KNNL/KPD/BGM/ TND/ 2023-24/655 Date: 10.10.2023.

1.Percentage rate tender is invited from eligible Travel agencies/ Individual owners of the vehicle are expected to apply through kpp-portal according to standard tender document rules in prescribed form on behalf of Managing Director, Karnataka Neeravari Nigam Limited, Bangalore. Details and Tender documents may be downloaded through website https://kppp:karnataka.gov.in and filled bids may be submitted through kppp-portal is on dated: 20.10.2023. till 16.00 hrs for the following works.

SL No:1:Name of Work:Consultancy services for detailed survey, investigation preparation of designs, drawings, estimates, package estimates, DTP and necessary Land Acquisition proposals for lift scheme for providing drinking water facility (bulk supply) for villages and filling of existing MI/ZP tanks in Santibastavad hobli, Belagavi taluk & district by lifting water from Malaprabha River near Kusamalli village (W.I. No 215),Amount put to tender (In Lakhs):109.01.

2. The Quarries/Clarification will be held in the office of the Executive Engineer, KNNL, Kalasa Project Division Khanapur on 16.10.2023 at 11.00am, 3. Opening of Tender will be on date :23.10.2023 after 4:00 PM, 4.Name of the Division for Contact: Executive Engineer, KNNL, Kalasa Project Division, Khanapur – 591302 (Ph. No. 08336 – 222163). 5.For further details such as, EMD amount, time limit, cost of tender form, eligibility for work, terms and conditions of tender visit our website www.knnlindia.com or contact the EE, KPD, Khanapur during office hours on any working day. 6.Conditional tenders are liable to be rejected. The officer competent to accept the tender reserves the right of cancelling/rejecting all or any of the tenders without assigning any reasons whatsoever. 7.Further information can be had from the under signed during the office hours on telephone 08336-222163 and HP company helpline (080)25501216.

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-517/KSMCA/2023-24

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
KNNL, Kalasa Project Division, Khanapur

THE SPECIAL OFFICER AND COMPETENT AUTHORITY,

(UNDER KPIDFE - IMA & OTHER SCAM)

3rd Floor, Podium Block, V.V Tower, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru-560001

NOTICE/INVITATION FOR E-AUCTION FOR IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

Pursuant to attachment of Immovable properties by the Government under the provisions of the Karnataka Protection of Interest of Depositors in Financial Establishments Act, 2004 (KPIDFE Act) and pursuant to the absolute attachment order by the Hon'ble Special Court the Special Officer & Competent Authority (under KPIDFE-IMA and other Scam), is issuing notice for e-auction of the immovable property through e-auction on 'as is where is and whatever there is basis'.

"SPLOCA" here by invites bids from the intending bidders along with a bid deposit as mentioned in the table below as Earnest Money for Immovable Properties to be paid through DD in favor of "Special Officer and Competent Authority (EMD)" or through RTGS/NEFT to the Account number 41506340119, IFSC Code: SBIN0040277 STATE BANK OF INDIA, VIDHANA SOUDHA Branch.

Short description of the Immovable Property

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Sy.No.412, 416/1 and 416/2 of Devanahalli village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, together measuring 7 Acres 16 guntas, residentially converted by the office of the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore Rural District, Bangalore vide ALN(DK) SR.No.86/2012-13, dated: 20-04-2013, ALN (DK) SR 50/2012-13, dated: 20-04-2013 and ALN (DK) SR 52/2012-13, dated: 20-04-2013 respectively comes under the administrative jurisdiction of Devanahalli Town municipal council, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District bounded on: East by: Road, West by: Sy.no.413 & 420, North by: Sy.no 417 & 419, South by: Private property and Sy.no. 411.

Sl. No.	SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY	SCHEDULE 'C' PROPERTY (UNDER CONSTRUCTION PROPERTY)	RESERVE PRICE (Rs)	EMD (Rs)
1	221.004 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	Apartment bearing flat No. 804, 8th Floor, Jupiter Block "C" Tower, SKYVEIW APARTMENT to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' property, having a super built up area of 888 sq.ft inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded by: North by: Flat No.803, South by: Flat No.805, East by: Tower D, West by: Corridor (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 1113/2022)	**Rs. 24,44,606/-** (Rs. Twenty four lakhs forty four thousand six hundred and six only)	Rs. 2,40,000/- (Rs. Two lakh forty thousand only)
2	221.004 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	Apartment bearing flat No. 503, 5th Floor, Jupiter Block "C" Tower, SKYVEIW APARTMENT to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' property, having a super built up area of 888 sq.ft inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded by: North by: Driveway, South by: OTS, East by: Corridor, West by: Tower B (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 1120/2022)	**Rs. 24,44,606/-** (Rs. Twenty four lakhs forty four thousand six hundred and six only)	Rs.2,41,000/- (Rs. Two lakh forty one thousand only)
3	221.004 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	Apartment bearing flat No. 803, 8th Floor, Jupiter Block "C" Tower, SKYVEIW APARTMENT to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' property, having a super built up area of 888 sq.ft inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded by: North by: Flat No.802, South by: Flat No.804, East by: Tower D, West by: Corridor (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 1125/2022)	**Rs. 24,44,606/-** (Rs. Twenty four lakhs forty four thousand six hundred and six only)	Rs.2,42,000/- (Rs. Two lakh forty two thousand only)
4	221.004 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	Apartment bearing flat No. 607, 6th Floor, Jupiter Block "C" Tower, SKYVEIW APARTMENT to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' property, having a super built up area of 888 sq.ft inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded by: North by: Open to sky, South by: Flat No. 606, East by: Corridor, West by: Tower B (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 1126/2022)	**Rs. 24,44,606/-** (Rs. Twenty four lakhs forty four thousand six hundred and six only)	Rs.2,43,000/- (Rs. Two lakh forty three thousand only)
5	182.18 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	Apartment bearing flat No. 803, 8th Floor, Venus Block "D" Tower, SKYVEIW APARTMENT to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' property, having a super built up area of 732 sq.ft inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded by: North by: Driveway, South by: Flat No.804, East by: Driveway, West by: Corridor (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 1154/2022)	**Rs. 20,50,290/-** (Rs. Twenty lakhs fifty thousand two hundred and ninety only)	Rs.2,00,000/- (Rs. Two lakh only)
6	221.004 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	Apartment bearing flat No. 604, 6th Floor, Jupiter Block "C" Tower, SKYVEIW APARTMENT to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' property, having a super built up area of 888 sq.ft inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded by: North by: Flat No. 603, South by: Driveway, East by: Tower D, West by: Corridor (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 1155/2022)	**Rs. 24,44,606/-** (Rs. Twenty four lakhs forty four thousand six hundred and six only)	Rs.2,44,000/- (Rs. Two lakh forty four thousand only)
7	221.004 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	Apartment bearing flat No. 508, 5th Floor, Jupiter Block "B" Tower, SKYVEIW APARTMENT to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' property, having a super built up area of 888 sq.ft inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded by: North by: Flat No. 501, South by: OTS, East by: Corridor, West by: Tower A (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 1157/2022)	**Rs. 24,44,606/-** (Rs. Twenty four lakhs forty four thousand six hundred and six only)	Rs.2,45,000/- (Rs. Two lakh forty five thousand only)
8	221.004 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	Apartment bearing flat No. 608, 6th Floor, Jupiter Block "B" Tower, SKYVEIW APARTMENT to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' property, having a super built up area of 888 sq.ft inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded by: North by: Flat No. 601, South by: OTS, East by: Corridor, West by: Tower B (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 1549/2022)	**Rs. 24,44,606/-** (Rs. Twenty four lakhs forty four thousand six hundred and six only)	Rs.2,46,000/- (Rs. Two lakh forty six thousand only)
9	221.004 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	Apartment bearing flat No. 603, 6th Floor, Jupiter Block "B" Tower, SKYVEIW APARTMENT to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' property, having a super built up area of 888 sq.ft inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded by: North by: Flat No.602, South by: Flat No.604, East by: Tower C, West by: Corridor (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 1615/2022)	**Rs. 24,44,606/-** (Rs. Twenty four lakhs forty four thousand six hundred and six only)	Rs.2,47,000/- (Rs. Two lakh forty seven thousand only)
10	221.004 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	Apartment bearing flat No. 504, 5th Floor, Jupiter Block "B" Tower, SKYVEIW APARTMENT to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' property, having a super built up area of 888 sq.ft inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded by: North by: Flat No.503, South by: Driveway, East by: Tower C, West by: Corridor (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 1624/2022)	**Rs. 24,44,606/-** (Rs. Twenty four lakhs forty four thousand six hundred and six only)	RS.2,48,000/- (Rs. Two lakh forty eight thousand only)
11	182.18 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	Apartment bearing flat No. 601, 6th Floor, Venus Block "C" Tower, SKYVEIW APARTMENT to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' property, having a super built up area of 732 sq.ft inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded by: North by: Driveway, South by: Flat No.610, East by: Corridor, West by: Tower B (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 1625/2022)	**Rs. 20,50,284/-** (Rs. Twenty lakhs fifty thousand two hundred and eighty four only)	Rs.2,01,000/- (Rs. Two lakh one thousand only)
12	182.179 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	Apartment bearing flat No. 503, 5th Floor, Jupiter Block "E" Tower, SKYVEIW APARTMENT to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' property, having a super built up area of 732 sq.ft inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded by: North by: Driveway, South by: Flat No.504, East by: Driveway, West by: Corridor(Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 47/2023)	**Rs. 20,50,284/-** (Rs. Twenty lakhs fifty thousand two hundred and eighty four only)	Rs.2,02,000/- (Rs. Two lakh two thousand only)
13	221.004 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	Apartment bearing flat No. 704, 7th Floor, Jupiter Block "A" Tower, SKYVEIW APARTMENT to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' property, having a super built up area of 888 sq.ft inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded by: North by: Flat No.703, South by: Flat No.705, East by: Tower B, West by: Corridor (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 49/2023)	**Rs. 24,44,606/-** (Rs. Twenty four lakhs forty four thousand six hundred and six only)	Rs.2,49,000/- (Rs. Two lakh forty nine thousand only)
14	221.004 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	Apartment bearing flat No. 708, 7th Floor, Jupiter Block "C" Tower, SKYVEIW APARTMENT to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' property, having a super built up area of 888 sq.ft inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded by: North by: Driveway, South by: OTS, East by: Corridor, West by: Tower B (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 119/2023)	**Rs. 24,44,606/-** (Rs. Twenty four lakhs forty four thousand six hundred and six only)	Rs.2,50,000/- (Rs. Two lakh fifty thousand only)
15	317.32 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	Apartment bearing flat No. 506, 5th Floor, Venus Block "B" Tower, SKYVEIW APARTMENT to be constructed in the Schedule 'A' property, having a super built up area of 1275 sq.ft inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded by: North by: Corridor, South by: Driveway, East by: Tower C, West by: Flat No.507 (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 120/2023)	**Rs. 34,22,830/-** (Rs. Thirty four lakhs twenty two thousand eight hundred and thirty only)	Rs.3,40,000/- (Rs. Three lakh forty thousand only)
16	221.004 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	A Two bedroom flat bearing No.808 on 8th Floor, vitrified flooring in Jupiter Block in "D" Tower in the apartment building known as "SKYVEIW" constructed in Schedule 'A' property and apartment measuring 888 sq.ft of super built up area inclusive of proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use with concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded on: North by: Driveway, South by: OTS, East by: Corridor, West by: Tower C (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 281/2023)	**Rs. 24,44,606/-** (Rs. Twenty four lakhs forty four thousand six hundred and six only)	Rs.2,51,000/- (Rs. Two lakh fifty one thousand only)
17	221.004 Sq.ft un-divided Share, right, title and interest of land in the Schedule-A property referred to above	A Two bedroom flat bearing No.207 on the Second Floor, vitrified flooring in Jupiter Block in "E" Tower in the apartment building known as "SKYVEIW" constructed in Schedule 'A' property and apartment measuring 888 sq.ft of super built up area inclusive of proportionate share in common area such as passages, lobbies, lifts, staircases and other areas of common use with concealed wiring, with exclusive right to use one open car parking. Bounded on: North by: Flat No. 208, South by: Driveway, East by: Flat No. 206, West by: Tower D (Clear Title by Court in order No. MISC No. 282/2023)	**Rs. 24,44,606/-** (Rs. Twenty four lakhs forty four thousand six hundred and six only)	Rs.2,52,000/- (Rs. Two lakh fifty two thousand only)

Bid Increase Value (Rs)	Last Date of Submission of Bids & EMD submission	Date of Inspection & time	Date of Pre-bid meeting & time	Date & Time of E Auction
Rs. 25,000/- (Rs. Twenty five thousand only)	**15th November 2023 until 5pm**	**17th November 2023 11:00am to 05:00pm**	**18th November 2023 3 pm to 4 pm**	**20th November 2023 11 am to 1 pm**

For Registration & Online Auction, you can login to: https://www.bankeauctions.com. The interested bidders who require auction related information can contact Joint Secretary, Office of the Special Officer & Competent Authority, 3rd Floor, Podium Block, Visveswariah Towers, Dr.Ambedkar Veedi, Bengaluru-560001, e-mail ID: splocaeauction@gmail.com or Contact Mob. No 8217203930.

Place: Bengaluru, Date: 13.10.2023

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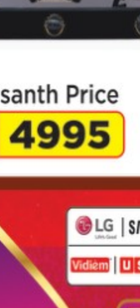

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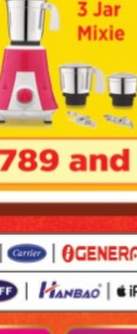

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The World Cup breakout star from New Zealand with Indian roots

Named after Rahul Dravid and Sachin Tendulkar, Rachin Ravindra has turned heads with his sumptuous stroke-making and handy spin in the opening games. It's early days yet, but he appears to have what it takes to fulfil his ambition of succeeding in all formats of cricket

P.K. Ajith Kumar

Rachin Ravindra knew very early that cricket was going to be his life. Not because he had a first name that was a combination of Rahul (Dravid) and Sachin (Tendulkar).

But because he started playing when he was a little boy in New Zealand, and often found himself in teams meant for older players. He was a part of the academy teams that his father, a former club cricketer, took on annual tours of India.

Both his parents are from India – Bengaluru to be precise. It was in India that he made his Test debut.

Making a splash

He also made his World Cup debut in India, just over a week ago. What a debut it turned out to be at Ahmedabad, against England. His unbeaten 123 came off just 96 balls, at one drop; it was an innings of top quality, featuring some sumptuous strokes. His unbroken second-wicket stand of 273 with Devon Conway helped the Kiwis avenge their defeat – on account of scoring fewer boundaries – in the 2019 World Cup final. In his previous innings, in the warm-up match against Pakistan at Hyderabad, the left-hander had cracked a 72-ball 97, opening the innings.

Two years ago, in the second innings of his maiden Test in Kanpur, he faced 91 balls as he made 18 not out, after coming in at No. 8. It saved the Test.

> Among the current batters, I look up to Kane Williamson and Virat Kohli. Like Kohli, I want to do well in all the formats
>
> RACHIN RAVINDRA

It is early days yet, but Ravindra looks a star for the future. Lest we forget, he is a handy left-arm spinner, too.

Batting is his first love. During an interview at Hubballi, after the second 'Test' between India-A and New Zealand-A last season, he told this correspondent that he had been trying to work harder on his bowling. "I would probably say that batting is my first skill, but I love bowling too," he said. "I would love to be a genuine all-rounder at the highest level."

He hadn't started off as a spinner, though. "I used to bowl seam until I was like 10, and then one of the coaches in Wellington said, 'Look, if you want to bowl seam and open the batting, it's pretty difficult'. He suggested that I pick up spin."

That has proved a good piece of advice. "Now I enjoy bowling a lot," Ravindra said. "Daniel Vettori is a big reason why I love left-arm spin bowling. He was able to take wickets in New Zealand. He wasn't the biggest turner of the ball, but he was a brilliant bowler. He held his length very well, and was able to change his pace and angle so well."

Ravindra has a lot of respect for the Indian spin duo of R. Ashwin and Ravindra Jadeja. He must have earned some respect from them as well for his match-saving efforts in Kanpur.

He relished the experience of intense Test cricket. "Ashwin, Jadeja and Axar Patel are among the best spinners in the world and are completely different types of bowlers," he said. "Ashwin has a lot of variety and Jadeja is just so relentless, Axar is in the same sort of mould, but he is a bit taller."

Love for Test cricket

Although he very much belongs to a generation that is more used to the white ball than the red, his favourite format is Test cricket. He loves the drama it provides.

"Test cricket has so many different variables, though T20 has its moments," he said. "There's nothing like the drama of the last day of a Test match. India's great chase against Australia at the Gabba in 2021 is a perfect example of the Test match drama. The knock by Rishabh Pant, the hook by Washington Sundar – with one foot off the ground – against Pat Cummins. And it was a lot of runs to chase on the final day."

Ravindra had made his T20I debut a couple of months before he played his first Test. His First Class debut had come some three years earlier, for New Zealand-A against Pakistan-A at Dubai. He hit 70 in his maiden innings for a senior New Zealand XI.

"Growing up, I'd always wanted to be a professional cricketer," he said. "Once you go through the teenage years, and when you are playing above your age group – I played for New Zealand[-A] when I was 19 – I knew in the back of my mind that I had the potential. And I was involved in two [Under-19] World Cups."

So how did it all begin?

"My parents, especially my dad, he loves cricket, but he did not force it on me at all," he said. "He has been my coach. He played some club cricket and stuff."

> Maybe it was more of the 'chin' in his name [that helped Rachin score the hundred against England]. I couldn't hit the ball off the square
>
> RAHUL DRAVID

> Playing the way he did in his World Cup debut against the reigning champs was really noteworthy. In his flow, he resembles Yuvraj Singh somewhat, a younger Yuvraj Singh. Very classy. So wonderful
>
> ANIL KUMBLE

Looking up to the greats

Both his parents are fans of Tendulkar and Dravid. "They were both awesome cricketers, whom I have looked up to," he said. "Among the current batters, I look up to Kane Williamson and Virat Kohli. Like Kohli, I want to do well in all the formats."

Ravindra said he was lucky that he could tour India several times with his father's academy. "The tour sort of runs every year," he said. "So I've been lucky enough to play at Bangalore, Chennai, Hyderabad and Anantapur."

He has also had a stint in county cricket. He played for Durham last year and hit 217 on his debut, against Worcestershire. "Playing First Class cricket in England was awesome," he said. "And you get a taste of the Dukes ball."

He said domestic cricket back home in New Zealand was pretty strong too. "We have only got six teams, so you have to be really good to get into one of them," he said. "The strength and depth of the New Zealand national team is a testimony to the quality of our domestic cricket."

Ravindra is only one of the several players of Indian origin to have played for New Zealand. There have been men like Dipak Patel, Jeetan Patel, Ish Sodhi and Ajaz Patel. "It's a very welcoming society," he said. "The environment allows people to come in and do whatever they can. I was born and bred in New Zealand, but I have the Indian heritage and roots that I respect."

> Once you go through the teenage years, and when you are playing above your age group – I played for New Zealand[-A] when I was 19 – I knew in the back of my mind that I had the potential
>
> RAVINDRA

23 years old

With his hundred against England in the 2023 World Cup opener, Rachin Ravindra became New Zealand's youngest century-maker in a global tournament

GETTY IMAGES

GAME THEORY

Top sharpshooters in Champions League history

Three of the four men with the most goals in the Champions League no longer play on Europe's biggest club stage. Among those featuring in the 2023-24 season, Robert Lewandowski, Thomas Muller, Mohamed Salah, Kylian Mbappe, Erling Haaland and Antoine Griezmann are in the all-time top 25. Haaland is the only one in this elite list that has a ratio of better than a goal a game

RONALDO

MESSI

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BENZEMA

Player	Goals	Games	Goals per game	Span
Cristiano Ronaldo	140	183	**0.77**	2003–2022
Lionel Messi	129	163	**0.79**	2005–2023
Robert Lewandowski	92	113	**0.81**	2011–
Karim Benzema	90	152	**0.59**	2005–2023
Raul	71	142	**0.50**	1995–2011
Ruud van Nistelrooy	56	73	**0.77**	1998–2009
Thomas Muller	53	144	**0.37**	2009–
Thierry Henry	50	112	**0.45**	1997–2012
Alfredo Di Stefano	49	58	**0.84**	1955–1964
Andriy Shevchenko	48	100	**0.48**	1994–2012
Zlatan Ibrahimovic	48	124	**0.39**	2001–2021
Eusebio	46	65	**0.71**	1961–1974
Filippo Inzaghi	46	81	**0.57**	1997–2012
Mohamed Salah	44	79	**0.56**	2013–
Didier Drogba	44	92	**0.48**	2003–2015
Neymar	43	81	**0.53**	2013–2022
Alessandro Del Piero	42	89	**0.47**	1995–2009
Kylian Mbappe	41	63	**0.65**	2016–
Sergio Aguero	41	79	**0.52**	2008–2021
Ferenc Puskas	36	41	**0.88**	1956–1966
Erling Haaland	35	32	**1.09**	2019–
Edinson Cavani	35	70	**0.50**	2011–2022
Gerd Muller	34	35	**0.97**	1969–1977
Fernando Morientes	33	93	**0.35**	1997–2009
Antoine Griezmann	31	87	**0.36**	2014–
Arjen Robben	31	110	**0.28**	2002–2018

PICTURE THIS

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Happier times

It has been a curious fortnight since Team Europe lifted the Ryder Cup at the Marco Simone Golf & Country Club in Guidonia, Rome.

The triumph left the United States without a win on European soil in the iconic biennial tournament since 1993.

The dust had barely settled on the celebrations when Europe's Rory McIlroy set his sights on winning the 2025 edition in hostile territory — at Bethpage Black on Long Island, New York, which is renowned for its harsh fans even before the flags of two continents are involved.

Europe last won the event on US turf in 2012, a victory dubbed the 'Miracle at Medinah' after the team overcame a 10-4 deficit.

But while the protagonists of the 2023 Ryder Cup moved on from Guidonia, the venue continued to be a hub of activity. This was, however, the consequence of unhappy circumstances — unlike the tournament, which reportedly gave tourism a big boost and spread cheer across Rome.

A large fire was reported last week in one of the temporary hospitality structures, pressing firefighters into action. Fortunately, no one was hurt.

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INBRIEF

Disruption in power supply tomorrow in many areas

There will be disruption in power supply on Sunday between 7 a.m. and 12 p.m. in the areas serviced from 220/66/11kV SRS Peenya MUSS on account of conversion works. According to a press release from North Circle, Bescom, the areas that will be hit are: S.M. Road, Jalahalli Cross, Peenya 3rd State, Peenya 4th Phase, 4th Main, 8th Cross, Chokkasandra, Maruthi Layout, Kempaiah Layout, Narayanapura, NTTF Circle, Rajagopalanagara, Ganapathi Nagar Main Road, Police Station Road, Chamundipura, Muneshwara Temple Road, MEC Layout, Bhyraveshwaranagar, Bank Colony, Vidhana Soudha Layout, Rajiv Gandhi Nagara, Goraguntepalya, Nandini Layout, 1st, 2nd and 3rd Blocks, Lakshmidevinagar, Parimalanagar and surroundings.

Virtual Intelligence System for Tailored Academics launched

Sri Chaitanya Educational Institutions (SCEI) on Thursday launched the Virtual Intelligence System for Tailored Academics (VISTA) by Infinity Learn. Sushma Boppanna, the Academic Director of SCEI, in a release, emphasised the institution's dedication to delivering quality education. "We have a great system of education, and our success in providing quality education to our students speaks for itself. We recognized the challenges that arose during the COVID-19 pandemic, impacting both teachers and students. To address these issues, we have launched VISTA, a platform for online learning. Through VISTA, students have access to educational videos and can revisit topics at their convenience. This empowers students to take control of their learning, reducing their dependence on teachers, siblings, or parents." Ujwal Singh, CEO of Infinity Learn, highlighted its transformative potential.

Pedestrian mowed down by school bus; driver found drunk

A pedestrian, who was mowed down by a speeding school bus on October 10, succumbed to his injuries in a hospital on Thursday. The bus driver involved in the accident was allegedly found to be drunk at the time, and has been arrested and booked under Section 304 for culpable homicide not amounting to murder.

The accident occurred on October 10 around 2 p.m., when the driver Subhash had picked up over 20 children from the school and was dropping them home. He lost control over the vehicle near Dodda Banaswadi and rammed into a bike and two pedestrians. All three were admitted to a private hospital, where Anjanappa, 60, succumbed, while another pedestrian Shakti, 57, and bike rider Manjunath are being treated.

The Banaswadi Traffic Police have arrested the driver Subhash. "Tests have confirmed he was drunk," sources said, prompting the police to book him for culpable homicide.

Security guard gets 3 years for misbehaving with minor

A security guard who allegedly misbehaved with a 7-year-old girl at a function in Malleswaram in May 2022 was sentenced to three years imprisonment under POCSO Act, 2012, by a city court on Thursday. The girl's family was attending a function at a community hall in Malleswaram on May 22, 2022 when they observed that the security guard posted there was misbehaving with their 7-year-old daughter. They lodged a complaint with Malleswaram police who registered a case under POCSO Act, 2012, arrested the accused and filed a chargesheet. A speedy trial was held in the case and the local city court convicted the accused on Thursday, sentenced him to 3-years imprisonment and levied a fine of ₹25,000.

Nearly 60% of commuters would pick public transit if bus, metro modes are available: IISc

The study also found that bus routes with high overlap with metro lines lose riders to the metro

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A key finding from research conducted by the Indian Institute of Science's Centre for Infrastructure, Sustainable Transportation and Urban Planning (CiSTUP) to improve the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation's planning and operations has revealed that if buses and metro are made available, nearly 60% of commuters would choose public transit.

A key finding in a research booklet that was released recently on the topic of ridership and revenue forecasting models for bus transit agencies states, "Our survey data indicates that at least 30% of current metro travellers use bus (in combination w/ metro) on their trips. An additional 15% of metro travellers use other non-walking modes to reach metro stations. On the other hand, the vast majority (95%) of current bus travellers reach bus stops by walk."

It further added that if bus and metro modes are made available to all surveyed individuals within distances of up to 1 km and 4 km, respectively, its simulations indicate that nearly 60% of them would choose public transit (bus, bus + metro, or metro).

"Reducing travel costs by ride-hailing to transit stations would not help attract many transit riders. The key is in making transit stops/ stations more accessible to travel origins and destinations," the finding states.

A file photo of commuters boarding a BMTC bus at the Mysuru Road metro station.

Ridership and revenue

On another topic of ridership and revenue forecasting, a key finding is that on medium-to-high-frequency routes, BMTC will gain more ridership and passenger kilometres by decreasing headway variance (i,e., increasing service reliability) than increasing service frequency.

It also found that bus routes with high overlap with metro lines lose riders to the metro. However, feeder services and routes with some overlap with metro lines can help both BMTC and metro.

"Our models can be used to determine the extent of beneficial overlap for different levels of demand and supply," the findings state.

Bus priority lanes

On the topic of bus priority lanes in Bengaluru, a study on its effectiveness and driver stress, CiSTUP, has found that there is a significant improvement in travel times after the introduction of the lanes.

"For the worst 10% of the travel times, we find an improvement between 4% and 28%. Drivers are generally more stressed during the morning peak hours and during the southward trips on the lane," the study says. In total, CiSTUP faculty presented 10 different BMTC-centric research projects, which included topics like bus operations optimisation such as bus bunching control, electric bus fleet planning and heavy vehicle simulator-based safety research.

A workshop was held on October 11 to discuss the research conducted by CiSTUP faculty and their partners to improve BMTC planning and operations.

Collaborative effort

Abdul Pinjari, Chair, CiSTUP, said, "Research and impact reinforce each other, and CiSTUP faculty take this as a guiding principle. Their projects have resulted in important findings and decision-support tools that can potentially be used to aid BMTC's planning and operations. Our faculty are looking forward to taking their research to the field in collaboration with BMTC."

BMTC MD G. Sathyavathi said the transport corporation is eager to collaborate with CiSTUP faculty to translate their research into implementable solutions.

Centre of Excellence in Antimicrobial Resistance now in Bengaluru

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Centre for Cellular and Molecular Platforms (C-CAMP) has announced the setting up of the Centre of Excellence in Antimicrobial Resistance innovation with the SBI Foundation at Bengaluru.

Antimicrobial resistance (AMR) has been identified by WHO as one of the top 10 global health threats, claiming 7 lakh lives per year globally with a projected fatality rate of 10 million per year by 2050.

"While India is one of the leading nations from the Global South in research towards AMR mitigation, deep science entrepreneurial efforts to deliver these emerging solutions from bench to bedside have shown a serious lacuna," C-CAMP said. Announcing the initiative, Prof. Ajay Sood, Principal Scientific Adviser to the Govt of India, said, "AMR poses a grave challenge to public health systems across the world and is a WHO priority. Paradoxically, AMR is one of the least funded domains in biotechnology due to its skewed market economics. Funding and handholding support for this deep science sector by the C-CAMP-SBIF CoE will be a tremendous boost for AMR innovation development."

On IAIH platform

The centre will be under the aegis of the global India AMR Innovation Hub or IAIH platform, also anchored by C-CAMP and chaired by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser. The focus of the centre will be on identifying and supporting, through funding and other means, a 360-degree portfolio of cutting-edge deep-science solutions across AMR and the larger health domain spanning food and agriculture, environment and healthcare.

The centre plans to kick off its operations by identifying and nurturing up to 12 innovations in the next two years. A nationwide India AMR Grand Challenges call is to be announced soon.

Six from Karnataka return safely from Israel

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Six people from Karnataka returned to India safely from Israel on Friday.

Congress MLA T.B. Jayachandra, who is supervising the return of people from Karnataka, said all the returnees looked relieved when they reached Delhi along with other Indians.

"We are expecting the arrival of another flight carrying a second batch of Indians which will also have people from Karnataka," said Mr. Jayachandra.

He further said that about 4,000 to 5,000 Kannadigas are stranded in Israel. The Government of India has launched Operation Ajay and the first flight carried 212 Indians safely to India.

Karnataka's representative in New Delhi T.B. Jayachandra receiving the Israel returnees. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

An all-new café for insects at Lalbagh Botanical Garden

Vishal V.P.
BENGALURU

A unique home has come up for tiny insects inside Lalbagh Botanical Garden as the first 'Insect Café' was inaugurated on Friday by the Horticulture Department.

The café has been set up in association with Vibhinna India Foundation under their CSR initiative with an aim to provide shelter and breeding sites to the insects as rapid urbanisation and concretisation has rendered them with fewer natural sites for shelter or breeding.

The café, which has a wooden framework, has been divided into many sections keeping in mind the biodiversity of insects in Lalbagh. Each section comprises small and medium pieces of wood, dry grass, sticks of various types of plants and other materials, which will tie the café together.

The insect cafe inaugurated at Lalbagh today. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

"There are provisions for insects which drill dry wood and live there and insects which live beneath the earth by making holes in the ground in the café. There are important species like carpenter bees and bumblebees in Lalbagh. The bees which build hives and collect honey are in fewer numbers, while single bees are in thousands. They prefer to drill holes in the tree trunk and live there instead of hives," Horticulture Department officials said.

D.S. Ramesh, director, Horticulture Department revealed plans to introduce around 10 more such insect cafes in Lalbagh, as well as in Cubbon Park along with Nandi Hills and Krishnarajendra Giridhama, Kemmanagundi. "Collaborating with the Forest Department, it aims to expand the concept to various forested areas. The primary goal is to familiarise the public with the concept of insect cafes and encourage them to install these in their own backyards," he said.

Insects play a crucial role in pollination and various ecosystem functions, and protecting native species has become paramount said M. Jagadeesh, Joint Director (Parks and Gardens), Horticulture Department.

He expressed concern about the declining native species, comparing it to the extinction of dinosaurs. He emphasised the importance of conserving native plants and insects, stating, "Just as the loss of dinosaurs marked an era, the extinction of native plant and insect species will have far-reaching consequences. The insect cafe concept has been introduced to safeguard and nurture these vital species."

AI-based lung cancer screening in 19 district hospitals to aid over 1.4 lakh patients

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Starting next week, the State Health Department will start Artificial Intelligence (AI) based lung cancer screening for patients in 19 district hospitals in Karnataka. The screening technology, that will be first deployed in K.C. General Hospital in Bengaluru, is set to benefit 1.4 lakh patients across Karnataka annually.

With most lung cancer cases detected at the last stage in the absence of specific common testing techniques for the disease, early intervention has become a challenge. In this context, the Karnataka health department has tied up with AstraZeneca to deploy AI-based lung cancer screening technology in its hospitals.

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the National Health Mission and the pharma company in the presence of Health Minister Dinesh Gundu Rao on October 12.

For 29 lung diseases

The AI-based lung cancer screening technology will screen a patient for 29 lung diseases in one chest X-ray. Developed by Qure.ai, this AI-powered chest X-ray system will help the government detect lung nodules, often precursors to lung cancer, overcoming a major early detection challenge.

"Cancer can be treated with curative intent if detected early. We are bringing this technology in all our district hospitals across Karnataka, and we strongly believe that this will emerge as the most beneficial way of detecting lung cancer early, and bringing down the financial and emotional burden of healthcare on patients, especially who cannot afford even primary care," said the Minister.

Incidence of cancer in Karnataka

In Karnataka, the incidence of cancer is increasing by about 1% each year in both men and women. According to a study by the Indian Council for Medical Research (ICMR), cancer cases in Karnataka are expected to increase by 90,000 by 2025. In Bengaluru, the most common cancers in men are lung, stomach, esophagus, and prostate while breast, cervix, ovary, and corpus uteri are most common in women. State Health Commissioner Randeep D. said patients are referred for chest X-ray by doctors for various ailments in district hospitals. "By scanning through these X-ray images, using this AI software, doctors will be trained to detect signs of development of tuberculosis (TB), lung cancer and other lung disorders early. Further SOPs would be developed and doctors will be trained to ensure that all suspected cases are further investigated. They will also ensure the required treatment is provided at the district hospitals or, if required, the patients are referred to tertiary care facilities," the Commissioner said.

Screening at no cost to patient

"All this would be done at no cost to the patient, and to our hospitals. This initiative has been rolled out with installation of AI software and training of doctors in K.C. General Hospital in Bengaluru on October 13. Based on the utility and gains, it will be expanded to other high footfall taluk hospitals of Karnataka," he said.

Sanjeev Panchal, Managing Director and country president, AstraZeneca India, said, "The company is grateful to the government of Karnataka for this opportunity to partner and cater to the needs of patients at the community level. This will help incidental detection of nodules earlier, thereby improving early cancer diagnosis to a large extent as we integrate AI-based chest X-ray and low-dose CT at the ground level."

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thehindu.com/features/homes-and-gardens
THE HINDU

LIFESTYLE

Splashing on bathroom upgrades

With the festive season upon us, it's time to give the humble bathroom a makeover. Try out trendy fixtures and moisture-resistant paint, says **Teja Lele**

GETTY IMAGES/ISTOCKPHOTO

It is the place where we all start the day. And pretty much end the day too.

The bathroom used to be the most neglected place in the house till everything changed when it doubled up as a dressing area, a home spa, and medication storage zone.

British bathroom designer Edward Lewis says, "The bathroom is the one room in which we are able to finally switch off from all that is going on around us and simply be alone with our thoughts, and reflect on the day. A chance to relax and wash life's little stresses, and above all, where inspiration strikes. It's an experience!"

A remodel would be ideal, but if changing tiles seems an impossible ask, switching fixtures and changing things around in this shared space can make a huge difference.

"Bathrooms must respond and conform to their user, and not the other way around. If you are making major changes, assess the users and their needs. Plan for now, but keep the future in mind," suggests Devangee Kelkar, an Ahmedabad-based interior designer.

She suggests that planning for the future means looking at your future elderly self and considering the possibility of selling your home in the future. "For that, steer away from ultramodern trends, and work with basics," she says.

Rahul Mistri, Founder and Principal Designer at Open Atelier Mumbai, suggests simple bathroom upgrades that can significantly impact the feel and ambience.

Reimagining walls

Replacing solid walls with fluted glass panels that enclose natural planters is a trendy and smart way to revamp your bathroom and add a touch of luxury at the same time.

Decorative lights

Lighting fixtures can significantly affect the bathroom's overall aesthetic. Energy-efficient LED lights or decorative sconces can create a warm and inviting atmosphere.

Backlit mirrors

A stylish and well-framed mirror with a backlight can elevate the entire bathroom. Mirrors also enhance the visual appeal and make the space appear larger.

Hardware and fixtures

Replacing bathroom hardware, such as faucets, showerheads, drawer handles, and towel bars, can give a fresh and modern look to the space. Chrome, brushed nickel or matte black finishes are trendy and can give a sophisticated look.

Matching accessories

Adding new accessories like shower curtains, bath mats, and towels in colours and patterns that match or complement can instantly refresh the bathroom's look.

Mistri believes that light neutrals like whites, creams, and pastels work well to brighten the space. Cool tones like blues and greens can be used to create a spa-like ambience. "Using moisture-resistant paint can help prevent mould and mildew growth. One can incorporate plants that thrive in high humidity, like ferns or orchids, to add a touch of nature. This can be paired with moisture-resistant decor pieces to complete the look," he says.

The designer offers suggestions for low-cost upgrades that won't drain the purse.

Painting effects

A fresh coat of paint can instantly transform a bathroom. "Light, neutral colours can create a clean and serene atmosphere, while bold and vibrant hues add personality and energy to the space. Another way is to pick a bespoke colour and add brass or metal accents to give it a classic yet elegant look," says Mistri.

Cabinet hardware

Replacing old and worn-out cabinet hardware with new knobs or handles can provide a quick and affordable upgrade to bathroom cabinets or vanities.

New shower curtain

Mistri says, "Swapping out an old shower curtain and rod with a new one can instantly update the bathroom's style. This is a cost-effective way to add a pop of colour or pattern to the space."

Kelkar feels that bathroom storage is often an afterthought and needs to be planned beforehand. "Storage is always at a premium in bathrooms and it is important to explore and tap every storage space that you can," she says.

"Over-the-toilet storage, wall-inset medicine cabinets, high open shelves, and boxes to put away bath linen and toiletries are a few creative ways that homeowners can create extra storage space. Try and keep the storage areas as far as possible from the shower and bathtub," she suggests. Mistri offers a few key pointers that we must keep in mind when choosing bathroom fixtures.

Accent on originality

"Bringing originality to your bathroom is one way to stand out from the rest. For instance, choosing a white palette with chrome or matt hardware can give

it a clean and elegant look," he says.

Quality and durability

"Fixtures and appliances made from high-quality materials can withstand the humid environment of the bathroom and last for a long time. This can be done by choosing products from reputable brands known for their durability and reliability," he says.

Water efficiency

Water-saving features, such as low-flow toilets, faucets, and showerheads, can help conserve water and reduce utility bills in a big way. "Choosing appliances that come with pre-set features for personalised use and set limits can also help in conserving energy and saving resources."

Style and aesthetics

Choosing fixtures and appliances that match the overall style and theme of your bathroom can complete the overall look. "Chrome, brushed nickel or bronze finishes can add a tint of elegance to your space," he says.

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Now, city's waste to be dumped in Ramanagara

Ramanagara DC has started work to find a 100-acre land to set up an integrated solid waste management park and so have his counterparts in Bengaluru Rural and Urban districts

Shreyas H.S.
BENGALURU

At a time when citizens and experts in Bengaluru have been demanding the closure of waste processing plants and landfills, the State government has decided to carry the heaps of refuse to Ramanagara, besides Bengaluru Urban and Bengaluru Rural districts.

Sources in Ramanagara say a park will likely be set up at Bidadi, located about 32 km from Bengaluru.

This comes even as there has been fierce opposition from the locals to the existing landfills and waste processing plants.

Four integrated solid waste management plants will be set up on lands given to them by the Revenue Department. FILE PHOTO

100-acre land

Ramanagara Deputy Commissioner Avinash Menon Rajendran confirmed to *The Hindu* that there are lands available in the district, and the district administration has started looking for 100 acres of land.

Bengaluru Urban DC Dayananda K.A. said he had directed officials to find land, while the office of the Bengaluru Rural DC said they are doing the same.

Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister D.K. Shivakumar, in a meeting held on October 10, announced that all waste processing units and landfills would be shifted out of the city as people living in the vicinity of these landfills were finding it hard to live there.

He directed DCs of Ramanagara, Bengaluru Urban, and Bengaluru Rural to find 100-acre parcels of land for the purpose.

On his directions, the Bengaluru Solid Waste Management Limited will set up four integrated solid waste management plants on lands that are given to them by the Revenue Department.

The integrated plants will have composting units, dry waste aggregation centres, landfills for rejects, generation of refuse-derived fuel and waste-to-energy plants.

Wrong move

However, Sandhya Narayan, a solid waste management expert, said this was a wrong move.

"Bengaluru's waste should be processed within the city, and there are advanced technologies. The contractors may love this new idea as it involves transportation to Ramanagara and other places on the outskirts," she said.

"Ideally, at every ward, there should be small processing plants, and waste should not go out of the city. However, at present, there are plants in the city, and BSWML has to work to stop the odour emanating from the plant. Waste processing should decentralised. With the fresh move, it will again become centralised," Ms. Narayan added.

Cab driver arrested for verbally abusing passenger

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Dinesh, a cab driver has been arrested for allegedly verbally abusing a woman passenger and sending an indecent message to her on Thursday.

The victim had booked a cab on one of the ride-hiring apps on Thursday evening while returning home after picking up her daughter from school. When the cab allegedly did not turn up for nearly half an hour, she cancelled the ride and took an auto home. However, the cab driver reportedly called her repeatedly, verbally abused her and sent her an indecent message.

BBP to host zoo club

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Bannerghatta Biological Park (BBP) is hosting a zoo club to inspire young minds to connect with nature, wildlife and work towards conservation. This will be a 15-week programme on Sundays starting from October 22.

The sessions will be conducted from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., with a maximum of 60 students of the age group 12 to 16 years and includes theory classes and field visits. Topics covered include captive management, in situ and ex situ conservation, animal care, behaviour and welfare. It also provides members an opportunity to interact with experts in the field and to explore careers in nature and wildlife conservation.

Those interested can enrol on the BBP website or at the zoo. Registration fee is ₹1,000, however it will be waived off for government school students. Applications will be available until October 18 but registration forms will close at 60 takers.

GOVERNMENT OF JHARKHAND
Agriculture, Animal Husbandry & Co-operative Department (Co-Operative Division)
(OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR, CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES JHARKHAND, RANCHI)
INTEGRATED CO-OPERATIVE DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (I.C.D.P.) CELL, RANCHI)

Very Short e-procurement Notice

Letter No :- 143 Date :- 11.10.2023

Tender Reference No:- ICDP/RANCHI/05/2023-24

01.	Name of work	Setting up of Head Office of Sidhu-Kanhu Agriculture Forest Produce Co-operative federation ltd, kanke Road, Ranchi.
02.	Estimated Value of work (IN Rs)	1,91,91,000.00
03.	Earnest Money (IN Rs)	3,83,900.00
04.	B.O.Q. Cost (IN Rs)	10,000.00
05.	Time of Completion	06 Months
06.	Date Of Publication of on Website	19.10.2023 AT 11:00 AM
07.	Last Date & Time of Submission of bids	31.10.2023 Up to 05:00 PM
08.	Name & Address of Office Inviting Tender	State Monitoring Officer ICDP Cell, Ranchi, Pasupalan-Sahkarita Bhawan Singh More Hatia, Ranchi. 834003
09.	Contact No of Procurement Officer	7979760612, 7250895727

02. Bid document with details terms and conditions will be available online on e-tendering portal, http:// Jharkhandtenders.gov.in from 19.10.2023 at 11:00 AM to 31.10.2023 up to 05:00 PM. Bids must be Submitted online only at the e- tendering portal http:// Jharkhandtender.gov.in on or before 05:00 PM on 31.10.2023. Hard Copy of Earnest Money, Cost of BOQ and Affidavit must be submitted in the office of undersigned on or before 02:00 PM on 01.11.2023. Technical Bid received online will be opened at 02:00 PM on 02.11.2023.
03. Estimate Cost May Vary.
04. Corrigendum/Amendment if any will be published only on the above mentioned website.

Sd/-
State monitoring Officer
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No. HFW/KSMSCL/EQPT/TND/NPPCD/41/2023-24 Date: 13-10-2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Ref: 1) Tender Notification No: **HFW/KSMSCL/EQPT/TND/NPPCD/41/2023-24, (IND-0052) Date:11/10/2023.**
Nationwide Tender is invited through **e-Tendering system** under KTPP Act 1999 and Rules 2000 for the following tenders:
1) Tender for Supply of ENT Equipments under NPPCD programme.
The tenderers who have registered under e-Procurement department may participate through e-tendering system.
Details regarding EMD, Terms and Conditions and other information are available in the Tender Document, which can be downloaded from the website **from 11-10-2023.** The eligible tenderers shall submit their e-tenders under e-procurement platform for above mentioned tenders. Further information if any may be obtained from this office.

DIPR/CP/1703/Adverto/2023-24

Sd/- General Manager (Admin & Procurement)
KSMSCL, Bengaluru.

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No.: KPCL/2023-24/IND0522 Date: 06.10.2023

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION

RPCL invites bids through e-Procurement Portal (Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**) for **"Supply of 5,760KL of HFO IS: 1593-1982 through Railway BTPN Wagons or Road Tankers and 400KL of LDO IS: 15770(2008) through Road Tankers required for Yeramarus Thermal Power Station for the year 2023-24".** Last date & time for bid submission along with Technical & Financial Bid (Part-I & II): **27.10.2023 up to 17.30 hrs.** Further details can be obtained from the office of the Executive Engineer (M-2), RPCL, YTPS, Yeramarus-584134, Dist: Raichur. Tele/Fax: 08532-286003. Cell: +91 9480682547, e-Mail: **eechpmytpskpcl@karnataka.gov.in**

TENDER NOTICE

Sealed tenders are invited from qualified & Reputed contractors, who have executed **the Construction and Installation of 1 MLD hgSBR based waste water treatment plant** at Vishwatmak Jangli Maharaj Ashram Trust, Shirdi - Kopargaon Road, Kokamthan, Taluka-Kopargaon, Ahmed Nagar, Maharashtra-423603. Tender forms are available on the **official website : http://atmamalikonline.com** from 16/10/2023 to 26/10/2023 betw : 10-18 hrs. tender cost : Rs. 5000/- **Contact : 7620565620, 9372951014.**

RURAL DRINKING WATER SUPPLY & SANITATION DIVISION, CHIKMAGALUR.

Tender Notice No.: 20/2023-24/ Dtd.: 06.10.2023

Notice Inviting Tender

Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Chikkamagalur invites Tender through e-procurement KPPP related to 11 works of Chikkamagaluru Taluk, Chikkamagaluru District.

Details regarding undertaking or having implemented work of Min. Amount Rs 84.43 Lakhs and Max. Amount Rs. 166.36 lakhs should be attached as per Standard Tender Document-KW-3 & 4. Contract can be awarded to contractors only if they have the minimum qualifications as mentioned in Act 1.

Tender for works should be submitted from 06.10.2023 to 20.10.2023 up to 5.00 PM. Tender will be opened on 21.10.2023 at 5.30 PM. In case this day is a holiday the next day will be considered.

Notification can be read on www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in For further details the case worker can be contacted during office hours.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Division, Chikkamagalur

DIPR/ckm/No.74/ksmca/23-24/507

Government of Jharkhand
Directorate Of Food And Consumer Affairs, Jharkhand,
Third Floor, JSFC Bhawan, Kadru Ranchi

Letter No- 1727 **Date- 13-10-2023**
Tender Ref No:Kha.Up.Ni.-01-Sugar-1/2023-1606 **Dated – 26-09-2023**

Corrigendum Notice

With reference to Gem Bid Number - GEM/2023/B/3998692 Dated : 22/09/2023 and PR NO. 307733 dated:-26-09-2023 **and** PR NO. 308725 dated: 09-10-2023 under Directorate of Food and Consumer Affairs, Jharkhand Regarding " Selection Of Bidder For Supply Of Free Flow white crystal Sugar (As Per FSSAI Norms) For 2nd Quarter (July 2023 To September 2023) Of Financial Year 2023-24 By e-Tender Through E-Bid Followed By Reverse Auction on GeM Platform.
Bid End Date/Time Amended as 16-10-2023 on 6.00 pm **to 26-10-2023 on 6.00 pm**
However, the prospective bidder are advised to regularly keep visiting and checking the website http://jharkhand.gov.in/food **&** GeM **Portal** for any further forthcoming information/ notice(s) / developments / amendment(s) / Clarification(s) regarding the subject Tender.

Sd/-
Director
Directorate of Food & Consumer, Affair's

PR 309077 Directorate of Food and Consumer Affairs(23-24).D

Govt of Karnataka
OFFICE OF THE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, DISTRICT URBAN DEVELOPMENT CELL.
BAGALKOTE DISTRICT. BAGALKOTE-587103
Ph: 08354-235776 E-mail: dudc_bgk@yahoo.co.in, ltstaff dudc_bagalkote@yahoo.co.in

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ:ಜಿನಕೋಬಾ:ಇಂ.ಕ್ಯಾ:2023–24 ದಿನಾಂಕ:13.10.2023

ಅಲ್ಪಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

E-Procurement portal ಮುಖಾಂತರ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆದ್ಯಾದೇಶ 1999, ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿಗಳು 2000 ರಂತೆ ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆಯ ನಗರಸಭೆ ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟೆ –2, ನಗರಸಭೆ ಜಮಖಂಡಿ–1 ಹಾಗೂ ಪುರಸಭೆ ಬದಾಮಿ–1 ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿರುವ 4 ಇಂದಿರಾ ಕ್ಯಾಂಟೀನ್‌ಗಳಿಗೆ ಆಹಾರ ತಯಾರಿಸಿ ಸರಬರಾಜು ಮಾಡಲು ಮತ್ತು ನಿರ್ವಹಣೆ ಕುರಿತು ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು (INDENT NO : DMA/2023- 24/SE1075) ಇರುತ್ತದೆ. ಸರಬರಾಜುದಾರರು ಇ–ಪ್ರಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟದಲ್ಲಿ ಲಗತ್ತಿಸಿದ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ವಯ ಟೆಂಡರಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿದೆ.

ಸೂಚನೆಗಳು:

(1) Pre-bid Meeting: 25.10.2023 at 16.30.
(2) Last date of submission of Technical and Financial bid seperately through E.procurement portal before: 30.10.2023. at 16.30.
(3) Opening of Technical bid is on Dtd: 31.10.2023 at 17.00.
(4) Opening of price(financial) bid of the successfull tenders will be on or After Dtd : 10.11.2023at 11.00 am

ಸೂಚನೆ : ಟೆಂಡರನಲ್ಲಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ ಹಾಗೂ ಇತರೆ ತಿದ್ದುಪಡಿಗಳು ಇದ್ದಲ್ಲಿ ಇ–ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಲಾಗುವದು, ಯಾವುದೇ ದಿನ ಪತ್ರಿಕೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪ್ರಕಟಿಸಲಾಗುವದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಸಹಿ/–

ವಾ.ಶಾ.ಇ./ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ/151/2023–24/ದೇಶಪಾಂಡೆಪಬ್ಲಿಸಿಟಿ ಜಿಲ್ಲಾಧಿಕಾರಿಗಳು, ಬಾಗಲಕೋಟ

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(CIN:U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: SEE/Tr(M)/BRAZ/EE /AEE-3/F-T6/23-24/3005 Date: 12.10.2023

TENDER NOTIFICATION (e-Procurement mode only)

KPTCL invites Tenders against **Enquiry No.:** KPTCL/SEE/TR(M)/EE(O)/AEE-3/BRAZ/Earthmat-66kV Devanahalli/EPR-748 Dtd: 11.10.2023 for "Providing Additional Earthmat for Augmentation of 2X20MVA Power Transformers by 2X31.5MVA Power Transformers at 66/11kV Devanahalli substation, pertaining to TL&SS Division, KPTCL Doddaballapura coming under the jurisdiction of Transmission (Maintenance) Circle, BRAZ, KPTCL, Hebbal, Bengaluru on Total Turnkey Basis. (Two part tender on Percentage Basis).(KPTCL/2023-24/SS/WORK_INDENT125).
Bids will be received through e-procurement mode only. The detailed notification regarding the subject tenders can be got by logging on to **https://kptcl.karnataka.gov.in** with hyperlink **"e-Procurement-KPTCL"** or **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** on or after **16.10.2023.**

Sd/- Superintending Engineer, (Elec.), Transmission (Maintenance), BRAZ Circle, KPTCL, UAS Campus, Hebbal, Bengaluru-560024, Ph: 080-23415347.

JHARKHAND MEDICAL & HEALTH INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT & PROCUREMENT CORPORATION LTD.
MCH BUILDING, RCH CAMPUS, NAMKUM, RANCHI – 834010.
(CIN – U855100JH2013SGC001276)
E-mail:jmhidpc2014@gmail.com
Website: https://jmhidpcl.jharkhand.gov.in/
GST No. 20AADCJ4293L2ZH

Bid Ref. No.JMC/NIT-23/DRUGS/40 Date:13-010-2023
TENDER FOR RATE CONTRACT FOR SUPPLY OF MEDICINES.

The **Managing Director, Jharkhand Medical & Health Infrastructure Development & Procurement Corporation Limited (JMHIDPCL), Ranchi** hereby invites separate **Technical Bid** and **Financial Bid** (two envelope system) through e-procurement from eligible manufacturer **Rate Contract for Supply Medicines**.
The Bid documents with detailed conditions can be viewed and downloaded through website http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in and should be submitted through e-procurement system only. The eligible Bidder(s) willing to participate must be registered in e-procurement portal.

The Bid documents with detailed conditions can be viewed and downloaded through website *http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in* and should be submitted through e -procurement system only. The eligible Bidder(s) willing to participate must be registered in e-procurement portal.

Particulars	Date & Time
Name of Work	Rate Contract for Supply for Medicine supply.
Time of Completion	Within 60 days after issue of work order
Date of Publication of Bid	14-10-2023
Pre-bid Meeting	20-10-2023 03:00 PM
Bid Submission Start Date	31-10-2023
Bid Submission Closing Date & Time	06-11-2023 04:00 PM
Bid Opening Date for Technical Proposal	07-11-2023 04:00 PM
Date of Opening of Financial Proposal	To be notified later
Application Fee (Non-Refundable)	5000/- (Rupees Five Thousand Only)
Earnest Money Deposit	50000/- (Rupees Fifty thousand Per drug upto 200000/-(Two lakh for four or maximum drug quoted)
Contact/ Helpline No. of E-Procurement Cell	+91-8709368893.

Note: The above dates may change due to declaration of holidays. In the event of any of the dates being declared as a holiday for the office of the JMHIDPCL, the Bids will be opened on the next working day at the appointed time.
JMHIDPCL reserves the right to amend or withdraw any of the terms and conditions contained in the Bid document including quantity/ number of Medicines to be supplied or to reject any or all Bids without giving any notice or assigning any reason. The decision of the Managing Director, JMHIDPCL in this regard shall be final.
Detailed Bid document can be seen, downloaded, and applied through website http://jharkhandtenders.gov.in only, hard copies of Technical Bid & Financial Bid will not be entertained except original Application Fee &Earnest Money Deposit.

Sd/-
Cell Head(Procurement). JMHIDPCL

PR.NO.309040 Jharkhand Medical & Health Infrastructure Dev & Procurement Corp Ltd(23-24):D

BRUHAT BENGALURU MAHANAGARA PALIKE
Office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Zone, Dasarahalli Division, MEI Layout, Hesaraghatta Main Road, Bagalagunte, T. Dasarahalli, Bengaluru-560073.

No: BBMP/EE/DD/Ten/06/2023-24 **Date: 13-10-2023**

INVITATION FOR TENDERS (IFT)-(SHORT TERM)
(One Tender Document System) (Through GOK KPP Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, BBMP, Bengaluru invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the Construction of Works detailed below.

(Standard Tender Document - KW-01)

Sl. No.	Name of the Work / Category	Amount Put to Tender (Rs. in Lakhs)	EMD Amount (in Rs.)
1	Filling of Potholes in Ward No.15, Kammagondanahalli - (Others)	12.10	30,500.00
2	Filling of Potholes in Ward No. 16, Mallasandra - (SC)	12.10	15,500.00
3	Filling of Potholes in Ward No.17, Chikkasandra - (Others)	12.10	30,500.00
4	Filling of Potholes in Wand No.18, Bagalagunte - (SC)	12.10	15,500.00
5	Filling of Potholes in Ward No.19, T. Dasarahalli - (Others)	12.10	30,500.00
6	Filling of Potholes in Ward No. 20, Nelagedaranahalli - (Others)	12.10	30,500.00
7	Filling of Potholes in Ward No.21, Chokkasandra - (Others)	12.10	30,500.00
8	Filling of Potholes in Ward No.22, Peenya Industrial areas - (Others)	12.10	30,500.00
9	Filling of Potholes in Ward No.23, Rajagopalanagara - (Others)	12.10	30,500.00
10	Filling of Potholes in Ward No.24, Hegganahalli - (ST)	12.10	15,500.00
11	Filling of Potholes in Ward No.25, Sunkadakatte - (Others)	12.10	30,500.00

Calendar of Events: 1) Tender Documents may be Downloaded from the KPP Portal Website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in from 17-10-2023. 2)** Tenders must be Submitted online through KPP Portal **on or before 16.00 Hrs. on 26-10-2023. 3)** Financial Bids will be Opened **on 27-10-2023 at 16.30 Hrs. in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, BBMP.** Further details can be had from the above office.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Dasarahalli Division, BBMP.

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY G20

Tender Notice No. 38/MYS/2023
Dated: 09.10.2023

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-tenders for the following works:

SL	Name of Works	Approx. Value
1	Instrumentation and condition monitoring of one span each for five bridges (Br.No.142@Km.47/ 900-48 / 100 (3x30.5m), Br.No.183@Km.56/ 200-300 (2x12.19m), 186@Km.56 / 700-800 (1x9.15m), 190 @Km.57/000-100 (1x12.19m+1x9.15m+1x18.29m) and 326 @ Km.88/ 650-800 (1x18.29m+1x24.40m+1x12.19m+1x30.50m) in Sakaleshpur-Subramanya Road Ghat section of Mysuru division in South Western Railway.	Rs. 2,00,00,000/-
2	Subramanya Road:- Improvements to the Running room roof, cubicles for ladies staff, CLI room, Kitchen with cabinet, drain and compound wall etc.	Rs. 59,77,291/-
3	**Sub Work-I:-** Hassan-Mangaluru Central Section: Between Ballupete & Sakleshpur stations. Bridge No. 84 (Existing 1 x 4.57m RCC Slab) at km 27/900-28/000 Proposed replacement of exg RCC slab with PSC slab to 25t Axle Loading -2008. **Sub Work-II:-** Hassan- Mangaluru Junction Section: Rehabilitation / Repairs of Bridge No. 419 (2 x 1.22m- RCC Pipe) at Km.114/200-300 between Yedamangala and Narimogaru Stations.	Rs. 2,21,10,374/-
4	Mysuru-Hole Narsipur Section:- Strengthening of Bridges from Km.40.000 to Km.86.400 by providing pitching, flooring, Drop wall, steps, Ballast retainer etc (Total 80 No. of Bridges).	Rs. 97,94,359/-
5	Harihar-Karajgi Section: Through Formation Treatment of Bad formation with Blanketing along with Geo Textile and Geo Grid (2 layers) from km. 384/500 to km. 385/600, km. 386/200-388/250, km. 388/800 to km. 389/200, km. 395/00-398/050, km. 398/400-500 and from km. 363/00 to km. 367/00 (UP) totalling for a length of 10.70km.	Rs. 16,29,48,841/-
6	Special repairs to girder bridges between Hassan-Mangaluru Junction section (including Sakaleshpur-Subramanya Ghat section) under Senior Section Engineer/Br/ Sakaleshpur Jurisdiction for two years.	Rs. 75,17,690/-

Last date for submission of bids: **Up to 11:00 hrs. of 31.10.2023**

For details log on: www.ireps.gov.in

Senior Divisional Engineer / Co-ord Mysuru

PUB/439/AAV/PRB/SWR/2023-24

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PERSONAL

ANNOUNCEMENTS

I, JAI Prakash Singh R/A No.230 Chowdeshwari Street, Varthur, Varthur Hobli, Bengaluru- 560087 hereby State that my son name is Kethan Singh J and in his ICSE 10th marks sheet, Father name is entered as Jai Prakash and mother name as Lakshmi. further i declare that correct father name is Jai Prakash Singh and Mother Name is Lakshmibai, Vide affidavit dated 11.10.2023 sworn before Notary Public A. M. Rajasekar, Bengaluru-560087.

CHANGE OF NAME

I, No.649157S, Ex Warrant Officer, Srinivasa Swamiji, S/o Swamiji, resident of 5th Cross, Opp Saudhe Mandi, Vinayaka Nagara, M.V Extn, Hosakote Town and Post, Bengaluru Rural District - 562114 have changed my name from Srinivasa Swamiji to Srinivasa S vide affidavit dated: 12.10.2023 before Notary C.V.Earappa, Bengaluru

I, Vimalachandiran Banukumaran S/o Banukumaran R/o 36/1, 9th Cross, Sri Vijayalakshmi Layout, Banjara Layout, Horamavu Agara, B'luru-560043 have changed my name to Vimalachandiran for all purposes.

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, Ex.No.14914746N, Rank: Havildar, Name: Nagesh.R Unit: Mech.Inf. residing at No.151, Vignesh Shop Opposite, M.V.Nagar, BEML Nagar Po, Bangarpet taluk, Kolar District have changed my wife name from Lakshmi Devi to Lakshmidevi.G. and also changed her date of birth from 14.2.1976 to 26.6.1977 as per the court affidavit dated 9.10.2023 duly signed by S.Thangaraj, Advocate & Notary, Government of India, KGF

FORM NO. 155
(See Rule 329)
Members' Voluntary winding-up
Name of the Company: Curam Software India Private Limited
Registered Office: Jupiter 1, 30:1,4th Cross, 7th Block, Jayanagar (West) Bangalore - 560070
Notice Convening Final Meeting
Notice is hereby given in pursuance of Section 497 of the Companies Act, 1956 that a General Meeting of the members of the above named Company will be held on November 15, 2023 at 11 a.m. at No. 12, Subramanya Arcade, Bannerghatta Road, Bangalore- 560029 for the purpose of having an account laid before them showing the manner in which the winding-up has been conducted and the property of the company disposed off, and of hearing any explanation that may be given by the liquidator, and also of determining by a special resolution of the Company the manner in which the books, accounts and documents of the Company and of the liquidator shall be disposed off.
Dated this the Fourteenth day of October, 2023
For Curam Software India Private Limited, Liquidator

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KEA blocks three students for forging documents to secure medical seats

A first information report has been registered against one student for submitting forged documents

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Three students have been blocked by the Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) for allegedly being involved in illegal activities such as forging the National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) rank scorecard and trying to get admission at top medical colleges in the State.

In one case, the KEA has also filed a complaint against the accused student at Malleswaram police station, and an FIR has been booked against her.

SIMS seat

According to the KEA, the accused student got a medical seat at Shivamogga Institute of Medical Sciences (SIMS) with forged documents, including the KEA admission order and fee-paid receipt.

When the management approached the KEA asking for the seat-allotment details, it was not available in the KEA portal. The KEA realised the fraudulent activity and filed a complaint against her.

Higher Education Minister M.C. Sudhakar interacting with students and parents at the CET Centre at Malleswaram in Bengaluru on Friday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

"The candidate has got only 140 marks in the NEET, and she was ineligible to get a medical seat. However, the candidate used the NEET rank scorecard and registration number of another student and created fake documents. She submitted a forged NEET scorecard with 480 marks to claim that she was allotted a seat from KEA at SIMS," says the FIR.

In another case, a student created fake documents and approached the High Court, alleging that KEA had not allotted her a medical seat despite being eligible. KEA officials explained, "When we asked the student to download her NEET rank scorecard on her mobile phone, she was unable to download it in the court. Then, it turned out that she faked the documents and was falsely claiming a medical seat. So the court directed the advocate to withdraw the case."

On Friday, when Higher and Technical Education Minister M.C. Sudhakar visited KEA to hear the grievances of students and parents, one more student approached him saying that she was allotted a seat in Bangalore Medical College and Research Institute (BMCRI) along with an email copy sent in the name of the college.

KEA officials asked her to show the NEET admission ticket and download the NEET rank score on her mobile phone. But she said it was not downloading. Then, the officials downloaded the NEET rank scorecard of the registration number the student claimed as hers and realised that it belonged to another student from North India.

S. Ramya, Executive Director of KEA, said, "Despite poor scores in the NEET, these three students tried to get medical seats using illegal ways. Apart from filing a police complaint, we have decided to block these three students for the future."

Suspicion of seat blocking

Though the seat allotment for engineering courses for the academic year of 2023-24 has been completed, several engineering seats remain unfilled, even in some top private colleges.

Higher and Technical Education Minister M.C. Sudhakar alleged that this is leading to suspicions of seat blocking.

As per the details provided by the Minister during the media interaction at KEA on Friday, seats in Computer Science, Artificial Intelligence, Bio-Technology, Electrical and Civil Engineering streams have been left vacant even at top colleges.

"At least 60 seats were vacant at some of the top colleges in branches which are in high demand. We are suspicious, but we cannot verify the reasons the candidates give, whether it is genuine or fake, when they cancel or surrender the seats. But the department is observing these things, and to avoid such activities, we plan to extend the counselling to fill all the vacant seats," he said.

Meanwhile, to avoid mistakes by students while filling out the online application for the Common Entrance Test, the KEA is planning to introduce an app-based application, the minister added.

Man found dead in park in city

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A man was found dead in a park near Kengeri on Friday morning. Morning walkers who came to Siddalinga Park, near Kengeri, found the man dead and alerted the police.

The RR Nagar police who recovered the body have identified the deceased as Muni, 45, a resident of Hejjala. Police officials said that the deceased was a chronic alcoholic, had separated from his family and was living on the streets, taking up menial jobs and spending his earnings on alcohol. However, what led him to take the extreme step is yet to be ascertained.

(Those in distress or having suicidal tendencies can call Arogya Sahaya Vani ph. 104 for help)

State govt. to appoint 12,901 candidates to graduate primary teacher posts from provisional selection list

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has permitted the State government to appoint 12,901 teachers from among 13,352 selected candidates from the provisional selection list for the post of graduate primary teacher for classes VI to VIII in government and aided educational institutions.

However, the court said the appointment of the remaining 451 candidates, who have not submitted the caste-cum-income certificate in the prescribed form in terms of the 1986 Government Order but were included in the provisional selection list, be deferred till the outcome of the result of the pleas by the Karnataka State Administrative Tribunal (KSAT).

A Division Bench comprising Chief Justice Prasanna B. Varale and Justice M.G.S. Kamal passed the order on Thursday while partly allowing a batch of appeals filed by a group of candidates. Appellants had challenged the order passed in January by a single judge, based on the petitions filed by another group of candidates over the issue of the process adopted on considering caste-cum-income certificate for selection to the posts.

Peculiar situation

"We make it clear that this provision enabling the State government to proceed with the process of appointment is made under the peculiar fact situation of the matter wherein the present litigation has brought the process of appointment of teachers of classes VI to VII across the State to a grinding halt only on account of rejection of application of some of the candidates by the Deputy Directors of Public Instruction for want of caste-cum-income certificate in the prescribed form," the Bench observed.

While setting aside the single judge's order on the ground that the petitions could not have been maintained by the High Court as the candidates had alternative remedy before the KSAT, the Bench asked the petitioners, who had filed petitions before the single judge, to approach the KSAT on their grievance over the norms adopted to consider caste-cum-income certificate.

Provisional selection

However, the Bench said that it had permitted the government to go ahead with the process of appointment of candidates from the provisional selection list announced on March 8, 2023, considering the imminent requirement of teachers in the interest of the students of classes VI to VII, who are left high and dry for want of teachers.

In the event the eligibility 451 candidates, who have not furnished the caste-cum-income certificate in the prescribed form, is held to be invalid by the KSAT, such posts may be filled from among the candidates who have been excluded from merits and who have submitted certificate in the prescribed form, the Bench said.

Wide variety for Bombe Habba

Jahnavi T.R.
BENGALURU

Popular cartoon characters Doraemon and Nobita smile back at you while in another corner, Krishna is engaged in teaching English alphabets to pupils in a popular shop bustling with customers. Old Bengaluru areas turn into toy havens during the season of Dasara as thousands of *bombes* (dolls) adorn multiple shops. From something as basic as a family having a meal together to something as elaborate as the entire life cycles of a god or a famous person – the collections at the stores offer great variety.

Dolls at Dasara Bombe Mane at Basavanagudi. JAHNAVI T.R.

Other sellers in Gandhi Bazaar say there is good demand for Chandrayaan dolls this year following the success of the lunar mission. The set is not in stock at many places. Dolls of late Sandalwood actor Puneeth Rajkumar, superstar Rajinikanth, sets inspired by the KGF film franchise are some of the unique inquiries they have received from customers this year.

At Dasara Bombe Mane, hidden in a corner near Bull Temple Road and sprawled across three floors, apart from the eye-catching bombes that cater to those looking something unique to add to their collection, sit dolls of ladies preparing traditional South Indian food and the classic Mysuru palace and darbar set. The palace set is among the best-selling dolls in the store, where the prices begin from around ₹2,500.

"This year, the sales at our store are up by at least 25%," Hemanth Kumar, the owner of the store said. Mr. Kumar's store also runs a monthly chit fund scheme for dolls to which over 45 families have subscribed.

The zeal among customers is also quite high as they travel from all over Bengaluru to these stores just to purchase dolls. For instance, Nethra Mohan, a resident of Nagarbhavi, had come to Basavanagudi for her annual doll shopping. This is a yearly practice for her, she said. "I arrange around 800 dolls on eight steps at my house. There is no definite theme, but I try to scour something new every year. I had recently set up Himalayas for the doll setting. This year I am looking for inspiration at the store," she said.

A retired official M.S. Thirumalachar, 82, carries the same enthusiasm every year for his arrangements. Last year, his theme was 'Kaveri Nammadu' and this year, it is *Bidadi Mane*, – an aspect of traditional weddings. "The traditional concept of Bidadi Mane is lost in all the pomp and grandeur these days. This is an attempt to remind the younger generations about the rituals," he said.

Mahisha Utsava passes off peacefully

The Hindu Bureau
MYSURU

A face-off between BJP activists and organisers of Mahisha Dasara was averted with the police clamping prohibitory orders in the city on Friday while ensuring that Chamundi Hills was out of bounds for the general public.

The run-up to the Mahisha Dasara – which was renamed as Mahisha Utsava and Dhamma Deeksha and for which conditional permission was issued by the police to hold it at Town Hall – saw an escalation of tension with both the groups being adamant and sticking to their stance; the organisers of Mahisha Dasara wanted to begin their programme by making floral offerings to the statue of Mahishasura at Chamundi Hills.

The BJP had opposed it, and Mysuru MP Pratap Simha had called for a "Chamundi Betta Chalo" to foil it and police stepped in and kept Chamundi Hills out of bounds for both the groups, besides restricting the public from visiting the hills. Security had been tightened across the city and at Chamundi Hills and the steps and roads leading to the hill-top saw an additional deployment of police.

Former Mayor Purushottam, writer K.S. Bhagawan and others at the inauguration of Mahisha Utsava and Dhamma Deeksha in Mysuru on Friday. M.A. SRIRAM

'Reclaim history'

Meanwhile, the Mahisha Utsava went off peacefully at Town Hall with speakers vociferously stating their point of view to "reclaim history" which, they alleged, was twisted to project Mahishasura as a demon. The contention of the organisers of Mahisha Utsava is that Mahisha was a Buddhist king and Mysuru region drew its name from him for which there is epigraphical evidence.

It is also being argued that the upper castes depicted Mahisha as a demon and spun a myth around it which became part of local folklore and culture.

Speakers

Speakers at the event included scholar Talakadu Chikkarange Gowda who said that an inscription of the Gangas helped trace the genesis of the name of Mysuru but additional research was essential to bring to light the date and events related to Mahisha.

Other speakers included writer K.S. Bhagawan. He alleged that Buddha was despised by Brahmins as he questioned their belief.

He said while Buddhism spread enlightenment and knowledge, the proponents of Vedic culture spread superstitious beliefs and added that that there was no need for a belief system or religion which believed in discrimination.

Buddhism

Urilingipeddi Mutt seer Jnana Prakash said Buddhism did not stoke fire in society but doused it and referring to Angulimala – a dreaded brigand who wore a garland of fingers of his victims – added that it (Buddhism) had transformative power to bring about a change even in the heart of the wicked. Buddhist monk Bhanteja, and former Mayor Purushottam were among those present. Earlier, the Buddhist initiation mantra was chanted and an oath administered to the gathering on the main tenets of Buddhism.

Jnanaprakash swami said it was on October 14 that B.R. Ambedkar took diskha and converted to Buddhism and hence Mahisha Utsava was also an event to commemorate it. Earlier, the organisers paid tributes to Ambedkar, Mahishasura, and Basavanna.

Timings
BENGALURU

SATURDAY, OCT. 14		
RISE	06:10	SET 18:02
RISE	05:41	SET 17:50
SUNDAY, OCT. 15		
RISE	06:10	SET 18:01
RISE	06:27	SET 18:27
MONDAY, OCT. 16		
RISE	06:10	SET 18:00
RISE	07:17	SET 19:07

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	31	23
Mysuru	32	22
Bengaluru	31	20

Bengaluru Today
30°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm and humid. Night also will be pleasant. Dry weather to prevail. Thunderstorm is likely.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
31°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm and humid. Night will be pleasant. Spell of light rain and thundershower may occur.

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THE HINDU
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From Page One

Huge cash recovered in I-T searches in city

Given the large sum of cash recovered, the Directorate of Enforcement (ED) has begun a preliminary inquiry into the case and will likely join the probe by registering a case, sources said.

Whose money is it?

Mr. Ambikapathy had not been taking big contracts for almost 10 years now, due to his health issues, multiple contractors said. "He was not doing work on projects that could get him large liquid cash, which has made us suspicious. It needs to be probed as to whose money it was," a senior contractor said. This has added fuel to speculations and allegations by the Opposition. Mr. Ambikapathy's wife is a former councillor from the JD(S). The couple is closely related to former MLA for Pulikeshinagar, Akhanda Srinivasamurthy. While many of their relatives were also being raided, Mr. Srinivasamurthy was not covered, the sources said.

INBRIEF

KSRTC to operate 2,000 additional buses during Dasara

On account of Mysuru Dasara 2023, KSRTC has decided to operate 2,000 additional buses to various places from Bengaluru from October 20 to 26, in addition to the existing schedules. Later, special buses will be operated from various intra and interstate places to Bengaluru between October 24 and 29, KSRTC in a release stated. Visit www.ksrtc.karnataka.gov.in for details.

World Standards Day celebration today

The Bureau of Indian Standards, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Bengaluru Branch Office, is celebrating World Standards Day 2023 on the theme 'Shared vision for a better world' SDG 3 on Saturday. Former Minister and MLA C.N. Ashwath Narayan, will be chief guest. The presidential address will be delivered by Prahalada Rama Rao, Pro-Chancellor of Swami Vivekananda Yoga Anusandhana Samsthana, Bengaluru, and the keynote address by K.J. Jagadish, MD, KMF. A special address will be made by Gyanendra Kumar Gangwar, Additional Director Vigilance and Public Distribution. The event will be at Taj Yeshwantpur, Tumkur Road, from 11.30 a.m. to 3.50 p.m.

Skill development programme

MSME Development and Facilitation Office, Ministry of MSME, will conduct a six-week Entrepreneurship Skill Development programme on garment manufacturing, tailoring and embroidery from October 30, for free at MSME Development Facilitation Centre in Rajajinagar Industrial Area. For details, visit the office in person or call 080-23151540 or 080-23151581.

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INBRIEF

21 more taluks get drought-affected tag

Twenty-one more taluks have been declared drought-hit, and with this, the total number in Karnataka has risen to 216. A few days ago, the government had declared 195 taluks as drought-hit. Based on the "ground truthing" exercise, the government declared 21 more taluks as drought-affected on Friday. The government has already sought compensation of ₹4,860.13 crore as per the NDRF norms from the Centre for providing compensation to farmers who have lost crops.

A special State-Level Bankers' Committee has decided to instruct all bank branches to restructure loans of all eligible farmers in the wake of drought in Karnataka.

Case against Eshwarappa for 'provocative' speech

The police have booked a *suo motu* case against BJP leader and former Minister K.S. Eshwarappa for his alleged provocative speech during a BJP protest meeting held in Shivamogga on Thursday. Shivamogga Superintendent of Police G.K. Mithun Kumar told *The Hindu* that the case was registered by the Jayanagar police in the city.

Mr. Eshwarappa, while addressing a gathering at the protest meeting against the Congress government held on Balraj Urs Road, said that if Hindus had decided to take revenge for the murder of Hindutva activist Harsha, they could have cut off many heads. He shared the dais with Lok Sabha member B.Y. Raghavendra, Shikaripur MLA B.Y. Vijayendra, Shivamogga MLA S.N. Channabasappa, MLC Bharathi Shetty, among others. The case was booked on charges of promoting enmity between different groups (section 153a of the IPC) and causing intentional insults with the intent to provoke others to commit offences (section 504 of the IPC).

Pramoda Devi Wadiyar invited for Dasara

The State government on Friday formally extended the Dasara invitation to the erstwhile royal family of Mysuru while seeking its support for successfully organising the Nada Habba that begins in the city on Sunday.

Minister in charge of Mysuru district H.C. Mahadevappa visited the palace and invited Pramoda Devi Wadiyar to the festivities on behalf of the State government.

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, and Governor Thaawarchand Gehlot were recently invited in Bengaluru to the festivities.

The festivities this year will be inaugurated by music composer Hamsalekha atop Chamundi Hills on Sunday.

I-T raids: DKS calls it political vendetta; BJP says money was meant for TS polls

Such searches never happen without a political motive, says Deputy Chief Minister; Opposition BJP and JD(S) allege that money recovered was 'commission' amount collected by the Congress government from BBMP contractors for releasing their dues

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Deputy Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Friday claimed that the Income Tax searches in Bengaluru on the residences of contractors, who had alleged 40% commission in contracts during the previous BJP rule, were "politically motivated".

This drew a sharp reaction from the Opposition that claimed the money seized was "commission" taken from contractors meant to fund the Assembly election campaign in Telangana and four other States.

On the radar: Income tax raids were conducted on premises linked to R. Ambikapathy, office-bearer of multiple contractors' associations in Karnataka, in Bengaluru on Friday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

'Never without motive'

Speaking to media persons near his residence, Mr. Shivakumar said I-T raids never happen without a political motive.

"It is not just in our State. Even in other States politically motivated I-T raids are on," he said.

Reacting sharply, the Opposition BJP and JD(S) alleged that the money recovered was the "commission" amount that was collected by the Congress government from BBMP contractors for releasing their dues.

The BJP demanded that both Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Mr. Shivakumar should step down owning up responsibility.

Linked to paying dues

Addressing a press conference in Bengaluru, BJP State general secretary and MLC Ravikumar alleged that the money was meant to be transported to Telangana which is going to the polls. "The fact that Mr. Shivakumar, who had put a break on the release of contractors' dues, agreed to release ₹650 crore to them after several rounds of talks with the contractors' association and that ₹42 crore was unearthed from the IT raid close on the heels of such a release is a strong evidence to show that the Congress government had collected commission from the BBMP contractors to release their dues," he argued.

He maintained that the commission amount was much more than what had been unearthed by the I-T raid and demanded a detailed probe into the episode to unearth more details. He alleged that huge sums of money were being extracted from government officials for their transfers. Only a probe into the episode could throw more light on such things, he argued.

Taking a similar line, JD (S) leader H.D. Kumaraswamy asked, "Whose is this money? What percentage of kickback is this and who is behind it?"

'Looted from State'

He also alleged that the money now recovered from cardboard boxes was meant to be transported to neighbouring Telangana. "It is true that this money was collected towards election expenses in that State. Money is being looted from the State to fund elections in five States," he alleged in a social media post on Friday.

When quizzed on the allegations by the Opposition, Mr. Shivakumar said he would not respond to every baseless allegation made by the Opposition.

Supply power to farmers continuously for five hours in three shifts every day: CM

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

> The consumption demand now is 15,000 MW to 16,000 MW as against 9,000 MW to 10,000 MW during the corresponding period last year, so this has led to power shortage.
>
> **SIDDARAMAIAH,** Chief Minister

Amid protests by farmers over inadequate supply of power and attack by the Opposition, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah on Friday held a review of the Energy Department and gave instructions to the MDs of electricity supply companies (Escoms) that electricity should be supplied to farmers continuously for five hours in three shifts every day and precautions should be taken to avoid load shedding.

The demand for power has increased significantly due to a severe drought situation in Karnataka, while electricity generation has reduced. But the government is trying to meet the increasing demand by purchasing power from both inside and outside the State, said the Chief Minister. An order has been issued asking those generating power in the State to supply it to the government.

"The consumption demand now is 15,000 MW to 16,000 MW as against 9,000 MW to 10,000 MW during the corresponding period last year, so this has led to power shortage," Mr. Siddaramaiah said. "We issued an order recently that those generating power in the State should supply it to the government. We will purchase power and try to address the issue," he said.

From other States

Officials who attended to the review meeting informed that 300 MW electricity from Uttar Pradesh and 600 MW from Punjab would be obtained from November. Action will be taken to purchase short-term 1,500 MW electricity taking the approval of the KERC. They explained that Section 11 of the Electricity Act has been invoked under national disaster management to procure electricity from power generators in the State and the power shortage would be overcome.

JD(S) leader and former Chief Minister H.D. Kumaraswamy has been blaming the Congress government for its failure to handle the power situation in the State. The JD(S) leader has hit out at the government, saying frequent power cuts were adding to the rural distress caused by shortage of rainfall.

On the criticism over frequent power cuts, the Chief Minister said, "Are they aware of the ground reality? There is drought and this has led to the problem, but we are still supplying electricity. However, we are unable to provide three-phase power for seven hours."

Energy Minister K.J. George met Union Power Minister R.K. Singh, a couple of days ago, and apprised him of the energy situation in Karnataka.

HC grants bail to secretary of Murugha vidhyapeetha

FROM THE COURT

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Noticing that medical report had stated that "there was no penetrative sexual assault" on the two victims, the High Court of Karnataka on Friday granted bail to A.J. Paramashivaiah, secretary of Jagadguru Murugharajendra (JM) Vidhyapeetha, who is one of the accused in the sexual assault case against Shivamurthy Murugha Sharanaru, head of JM Bruhan Mutt, Chitradurga.

Justice Shivashankar Amarannavar passed the order while allowing an appeal filed by Paramashivaiah (59), who is arraigned as accused number 3 in the chargesheet. He had questioned the December 2022 order passed by the special court for Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act cases in Chitradurga, which had declined to grant bail to him.

"Section 5(l) punishable under Section 6 of the POCSO Act is for repeated aggravated penetrative sexual assault. As the hymen of the victim girls are intact, at this stage, it cannot be said that there was an aggravated penetrative sexual assault on the victim girls. The said aspect can be ascertained at the trial," the High Court noted.

Though the punishment for abetting the accused for the offence of aggravated penetrative sexual assault is the same provided for the offence, the High Court said the charge on Paramashivaiah for abetting the seer, who is the accused number 1, to commit the offence of aggravated penetrative sexual assault is a matter of trial.

Merely because Paramashivaiah is an influential person, he cannot be kept in custody till the conclusion of the trial, the High Court.

State govt. welfare measures to benefit 34,000 archakas

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Ramalinga Reddy

The State government on Friday announced welfare measures to benefit over 34,000 archakas working in 'C' category temples across the State, including insurance and education grants to the family members.

"We have decided to provide annual education grants from ₹5,000 to ₹50,000, depending on the courses that the children of archakas working in 'B' and 'C' category temples. A one-time grant of ₹1 lakh will be given to those pursuing education abroad," Transport and Muzrai Minister Ramalinga Reddy told presspersons here after chairing the first meeting of the newly formed Karnataka State Dharmika Parishath. Besides providing identity cards, Ayushman Bharath cards would be given to all the archakas and employees working in temples coming under the Muzrai Department, he added.

Demand

The announcement comes amid the demand by archakas to increase the annual *tastik* amount given to 'C' category temples from the current ₹60,000 to ₹1.2 lakh annually and an honorarium of ₹10,000 a month to archakas in 'C' category temples. Mr. Reddy, however, said that since it involved cost, the decision had to be made by the Chief Minister.

Further, the Minister said that 1,200 archakas from 'B' and 'C' category temples would be sent to Kashi and Gaya trip annually. "The parishath also decided to send a proposal to the Energy Department to supply power free of cost to the 'C' category temples. The family of archakas and employees working in the notified temple would also receive a compensation of ₹2 lakh in case of death of archakas/employees."

The Minister also said that feeding rooms were being established in all the major temples, and the parishath on Friday approved setting up of a call centre to assist in reservation of rooms, booking for seva, and information on darshan timings, among others.

Panchamasalis re-launch agitation

The Hindu Bureau
HUBBALLI

As announced earlier, the Lingayat Panchamasali agitation for 2A reservation resumed in a symbolic manner in Hubballi on Friday with Panchamasali seer Sri Basava Jaya Mrutyunjaya Swami leading a padayatra and performing Ishtalinga Puja on the road to highlight the demand.

The seer was accompanied by scores of leaders and members of Lingayat Panchamasali community during the protest, which began with garlanding of the equestrian statue of Kittur Rani Chennamma at Kittur Chennamma Circle in Hubballi.

Subsequently, the protesters went to Gabbur Cross in their vehicles and on reaching the protest venue, they staged a dharna on the road and at the junction, without causing much inconvenience to motorists.

At Gabbur Cross, the seer performed Ishtalinga Puja.

Speaking to presspersons, the seer said that for the first time a demand is being highlighted through a religious ritual. "It is a symbolic way of communicating our demand and also praying to the Almighty," the seer said.

The seer also asked the government not to be overconfident about having a majority, including 11 legislators from the Panchamasali community.

Veteran journalist Sachidananda Murthy passes away

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Veteran journalist K.S. Sachidananda Murthy, 68, who hailed from Karnataka and had a long stint with the Malayala Manorama Group, passed away in Bengaluru on Friday. He was recovering from a recent lung transplant surgery in the city. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

'Sachi', as he was fondly called in journalist circles, had an over four-decade-long career in journalism of which he spent most part in the Malayala Manorama Group and in *The Week* magazine. Prior to that he worked with *The Indian Express*.

He joined *The Week* as its Bengaluru correspondent in 1982 and moved to New Delhi in 1990 as the chief of the bureau of the magazine and became its resident editor in 2000. He retired in 2022. His column on political affairs appeared in *Malayala Manorama* for over 30 years.

Condolences

"As Resident Editor of *The Week*, Sachi was well known in the Capital, be it political or power corridors. He shaped generations of reporters and his guidance was readily available to all. His charming ways easily won every one," the Press Club of India, Delhi, said in a social media post.

"Sachidananda Murthy was among the few Kannadiga journalists active in the national capital media circles," said Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

Mr. Murthy was secretary general of the Editors Guild of India in 2007 and chairman of the Lok Sabha Press Advisory Committee in 2009. He was also awarded by the Karnataka Media Academy for his contribution to journalism.

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No. SPO/EO/Tender-eproc. 02- Call-2 / 2023-24 Date : 10.10.2023

"INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST" (2nd Call)
(Through E- Procurement Portal)

The University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad is **re-inviting Expression of Interest** from the authorized registered agencies through e-Procurement portal for supply of **Office Stationery Items for the period of One year.** The agencies are requested to participate in Tender through e-Procurement portal **online only.** The website address for necessary details is http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in **(Goods Tender Category).** For details of registration please contact ph. No: 080-22230960/ 080-22234115.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Last date and time for tender queries / clarification	:	**19.10.2023** (Thursday) till 4.00 PM
Date of Pre-Bid Meeting (In the Office of E.O.)	:	**20.10.2023** (Friday) at 11.00 AM
Last date & time for receipt of Tender	:	**30.10.2023** (Monday) till 4.00 PM
Date & Time for opening of Financial Bid	:	**31.10.2023** (Tuesday) at 4.10 PM

Tenderers need to register with e-procurement portal of Govt of Karnataka B'lore, to participate in the tender. For more details please contact 0836-2214231 during office hours. Bidders are requested to get updated with the corrigendum/addendum (if any) issued online at the following link in the entire tender process. http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/Dharwad/KSMCA/369/2023-24

Sd/- Estate Officer
UAS, Dharwad

INBRIEF

Prominent film producer P.V. Gangadharan no more

P.V. Gangadharan, one of the most prominent producers of Malayalam cinema and director of *Mathrubhumi*, died at a private hospital in Kozhikode on Friday. He was also a businessman and had contested the 2011 Kerala Assembly elections from Kozhikode North on the Congress ticket. He had produced several commercially successful as well as critically acclaimed films.

TNCC gears up to welcome Sonia during visit to Chennai

The Tamil Nadu Congress Committee (TNCC) is gearing up to organise a rousing reception for former party president Sonia Gandhi and All India Congress Committee (AICC) general secretary Priyanka Gandhi, who will visit Chennai on October 14 to participate in the 'Women's Rights Conference' organised by the DMK's women's wing.

Congress sources say Ms. Sonia Gandhi's decision to participate in the conference despite her ailing health shows that the relationship between the leadership of the DMK and the Congress is stronger than ever before.

After EC transfers officers, Telangana fills IPS, IAS posts

Telangana government has posted IPS and IAS officers in the vacancies created by the transfer of the incumbent officers by the Election Commission of India after the announcement of schedule for elections. The government is yet to finalise the name for the Hyderabad Police Commissioner. The government has also named officers in place of four district collectors who were transferred by the poll panel.

Disproportionate assets case booked against TRB secretary

Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption, in their FIR, have said that the family has acquired assets worth ₹3.89 cr., calculated to be 354.66% over and above their known sources of income

The Hindu Bureau
CHENNAI

The Directorate of Vigilance and Anti-Corruption (DVAC) has booked a case against the Tamil Nadu Teachers Recruitment Board's secretary, V.C. Rameswaramurugan, and members of his family, for acquiring and possessing assets disproportionate to his known sources of income and those of his family members. The family has acquired assets worth ₹3.89 crore, which was calculated to be 354.66% over and above their known sources of income, the FIR alleged.

The move comes a day after the DVAC searched the residences of Rameswaramurugan and his father-in-law, in Erode district on Thursday. Rameswaramurugan, 52, is a native of Vellakovil, Gobichettipalayam, in Erode district.

The residence of V.C. Rameswaramurugan, secretary of Teachers' Recruitment Board, where DVAC sleuths conducted searches in Erode district on Thursday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

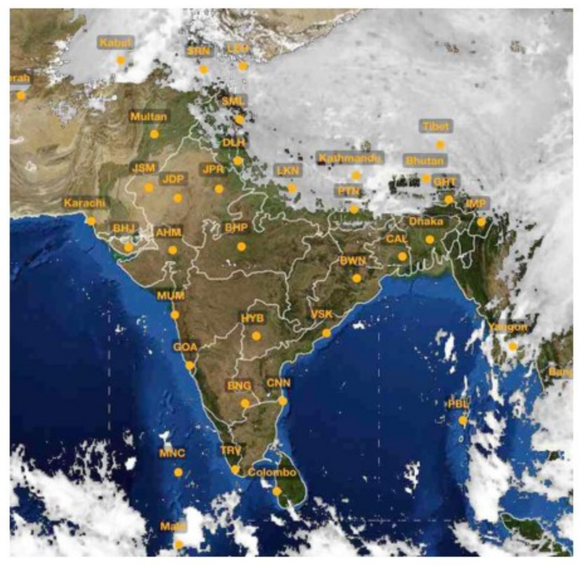
Rameswaramurugan worked as a joint director in the Tamil Nadu School Education Department from April 1, 2012 to May 10, 2012 and as Director of Elementary Education from May 11, 2012 to July 31, 2013. He also held the post of Director of School Education from July 31, 2013 to December 10, 2014.

The DVAC said Rameswaramurugan held properties in his name and in the name of his family members to the tune of ₹1.98 crore as on April 1, 2012, the beginning of the check period. Immoveable assets, such as vacant sites/plots, punja lands and house buildings, were bought in the names of Rameswaramurugan, his wife, parents and parents-in law in Somangalam village, Erode, Thiruthangal in Sivakasi, Madhavaram in Chennai, Nattarmangalam village in Cuddalore, Keela Thiruthangal village in Sivakasi, Pazhaya Seevaram, Nathanallur village in Kancheepuram Ayansalvarpatti and other places.

The total value of the family's assets was ₹6.52 crore as on March 31, 2016, which was the end of the check period.

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 18.00 HRS)

Forecast for Saturday: Heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Kerala and Mahe. Thunderstorm with lightning/gusty winds likely at isolated places over Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Muzaffarabad, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, Karaikal, Kerala, Mahe and Lakshadweep

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	30	33.4	23.4	Kozhikode	6	33.8	24.2
Ahmedabad	—	37.0	23.8	Kurnool	—	37.1	25.2
Aizawl	—	30.0	18.9	Lucknow	—	35.1	19.8
Allahabad	—	36.4	23.0	Madurai	—	33.6	24.6
Bengaluru	—	31.0	19.7	Mangaluru	5	32.3	23.5
Bhopal	—	36.7	19.4	Mumbai	—	35.1	26.8
Bhubaneswar	—	35.0	24.7	Mysuru	—	31.0	24.0
Chandigarh	—	33.0	17.8	New Delhi	—	36.2	19.8
Chennai	—	33.0	25.5	Patna	—	35.4	23.2
Coimbatore	—	33.0	23.1	Port Blair	4	30.9	24.8
Dehradun	—	31.6	16.6	Puducherry	—	33.8	25.9
Gangtok	12	21.6	13.6	Pune	—	34.4	19.9
Goa	—	33.2	25.5	Raipur	1	35.2	24.7
Guwahati	—	32.9	23.0	Ranchi	—	32.6	19.1
Hubballi	—	34.0	23.0	Shillong	—	22.4	13.1
Hyderabad	—	33.4	20.9	Shimla	—	28.0	14.1
Imphal	—	30.8	19.5	Srinagar	—	26.9	8.7
Jaipur	—	36.0	23.2	Thiruvananthapuram	23	31.0	22.8
Kochi	—	31.0	24.8	Tiruchi	—	33.8	25.6
Kohima	—	20.4	15.0	Vijayawada	—	32.9	25.6
Kolkata	—	35.5	26.4	Visakhapatnam	—	34.5	25.2

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.11	150	40	212	176	
Bengaluru	6	29	62	115	136	
Chennai	4	4	24	54	101	
Delhi	4	185	28	297	326	
Hyderabad	.11	8	35	199	150	
Kolkata	.19	.29	19	192	124	
Lucknow	5	.88	94	193	115	
Mumbai	.79	—	—	157	403	
Pune	—	.22	45	245	154	
Visakhapatnam	9	.52	28	164	182	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Jind, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 300 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Sivasagar, Assam recorded a healthy AQI score of 24

Air Quality Code: Poor | Moderate | Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

FiberNet case: SC to hear plea on Oct. 17

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday agreed to hear, on October 17, a plea for the anticipatory bail filed by former Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu in the FiberNet scam case even as it drew an assurance from the State to not press for the TDP leader's arrest in a trial court hearing due on October 16.

A Bench of Justices Aniruddha Bose and Bela M. Trivedi took note of a submission by senior advocate Siddharth Luthra, for Mr. Naidu, that his client's plea for anticipatory bail would become infructuous if he was arrested on October 16, a day before the scheduled Supreme Court hearing. The trial court had directed the Andhra Pradesh CID to produce Mr. Naidu before it on October 16.

N. Chandrababu Naidu

"We are not passing any order, but, Mr. Rohatgi, do not arrest him on Monday before our hearing... he is anyway in custody," Justices Aniruddha Bose and Bela M. Trivedi addressed senior advocate Mukul Rohatgi and advocate Mahfooz A. Nazki, representing the State.

Mr. Rohatgi said he would, on October 16, simply ask the trial court to adjourn the hearing to Wednesday. "There will be no arrest on Monday," he assured.

The FiberNet case involves allegations of tender manipulation against Mr. Naidu for allotting work in the first phase of the A.P. FiberNet Project of ₹330 crore to a favoured company, causing loss to the public exchequer.

Ex-Minister Lakshmaiah resigns from Congress in Telangana

Ravi Reddy
HYDERABAD

Former Andhra Pradesh Congress Committee president (before bifurcation) and ex-Minister Ponnala Lakshmaiah resigned from the party on Friday protesting the "humiliation" being meted out to seniors in the party during candidate selection for the upcoming Assembly election.

A section of senior leaders of the Backward Classes (BC) has been upset after the names of veterans were kept on hold during candidate selection, ostensibly based on a survey carried out by poll strategist Sunil Kanugolu. Capping the unrest, Mr. Lakshmaiah sent his two-page resignation letter to All India Congress Committee president Mallikarjun Kharge.

Ticket allotment grouse

The trigger is said to be the issue of ticket allotment. Mr. Lakshmaiah, a party veteran and an aspirant to the Jangaon seat, is said to be upset that some seniors are pitching hard for the candidature of Kommuri Pratap Reddy, Jangaon DCC chief.

In his letter, Mr. Lakshmaiah blamed TPCC chief A. Revanth Reddy and Mr. Kanugolu for his decision. He said BCs were being humiliated in candidate selection. "The surveys done by Mr. Kanugolu say the BC leaders will lose the election. Why are BC leaders being targeted?" he asked.

TPCC working president B. Mahesh Kumar Goud said they would request Mr. Lakshmaiah to reconsider his decision.

Protective shield

Safety measures: In the wake of the recent landslip at Indrakeeladri in Vijayawada, the government has made arrangements to safeguard the hill. Railings are raised around the hill and devotees or vehicles are not allowed anywhere near it as a precautionary measure. G.N. RAO

Row over credit for Vizhinjam port breaks out before event to mark first ship docking

The Hindu Bureau
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM

Political wrangling over claiming credit for realisation of the Vizhinjam International Seaport broke out barely 48 hours before the Kerala government-sponsored event to receive the first ship to call at the port.

Kerala Pradesh Congress Committee (KPCC) president K. Sudhakaran accused Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan of falsely positing himself as the architect of the mega scheme. He said the LDF government delayed the project by four years causing a mammoth cost overrun.

While in Opposition, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) [CPI(M)] had tried to scuttle the project by raising fictitious corruption charges against the then CM Oommen Chandy. Nevertheless, Chandy's will to implement the project prevailed, said Mr. Sudhakaran.

A Chinese ship with cranes is the first vessel to be berthed at the Vizhinjam International Port in Thiruvananthapuram. S. MAHINSHA

The CPI(M) had assailed Chandy publicly, and the UDF instituted a judicial commission to investigate the allegations. The Justice C.N. Ramachandran Nair Commission gave the Chandy government a clean chit.

NGT bats for sustainable tourism policy on islands across country to check impact of climate change

G. Krishnakumar
KOCHI

An expert panel set up by the National Green Tribunal (NGT) to frame policies and measures to protect submerging islands due to the rise of sea level and global warming has recommended island-specific sustainable development and tourism policy keeping the climate risks in mind.

The panel was constituted by the Principal Bench of the tribunal after it took *suo motu* cognizance of *The Hindu* report titled 'India's sinking islands' published on March 19, 2023, in Kerala editions. The report had stated that several of the country's 1,382 islands are under siege from unseasonal cyclonic storms, sea erosion and new development projects.

Expert committee recommends a blue-economy-based activities on marine and coastal fronts. K.K. MUSTAFAH

The panel consisted of experts representing the CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography (NIO); National Centre for Sustainable Coastal Management, Chennai; National Institute of Ocean Technology, Chennai; National Institute for Geo-informatics Science & Technology; Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services, Hyderabad; and IIT, Kharagpur.

In its report submitted before the Principal Bench on October 10, the committee recommended diversified economic development and controlled nature-based growth and blue-economy-based activities on marine and coastal fronts. It suggested alternative climate-resilient practices for livelihood on the islands and steps to explore nature-based ecosystem restoration.

It also recommended installation of GPS/GNSS station with respect to each tide gauge station across the islands to estimate vertical land motion which can accurately quantify the future sea-level rise over the Andaman and Lakshadweep islands.

The committee recommended a nationwide island assessment study to understand accurate vulnerability of the coastal areas. It suggested conducting field-based topographic surveys to map the accurate inundation of islands under different climate change scenarios.

The research findings showed that all the islands in Lakshadweep are vulnerable to impact from sea-level rise.

Two inter-State drug smugglers held with 200 kg marijuana

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Two inter-State drug smugglers were caught transporting 200 kilograms of marijuana from Odisha to Pune in Maharashtra by the Special Operations Teams (SOT) of Maheshwaram, along with Choutuppal police.

Officials said that the driver was paid ₹25,000 per trip to smuggle the contraband and used to keep a Maharashtra police cap on the car's dashboard to pass through toll plazas by posing as a police personnel.

The accused, Sandeep Anil Indrekar, 37, a resident of Narayangaon in Pune, hired his friend Vishal Kandugadgi, 36, by paying him ₹25,000 per trip to smuggle drugs across State borders.

"Sandeep turned to drug trade after incurring loss in his business and hired Vishal to transport the contraband from their dealer Laxman, a resident of Malkangiri, Odisha, who is at large," the police said. They transported 80 kilograms of the contraband about two months ago.

Based on a tip-off, the car was intercepted at Pantangi checkpost on Friday and the duo were nabbed.

Balancing policy

India must pressure Israel to act responsibly in the face of terror

Within hours of the massacre of Israeli citizens by Hamas fighters last Saturday, Prime Minister Narendra Modi tweeted India's solidarity with Israel. While the histories of their conflicts and the scale of violence have been very different, India has faced terror attacks all too often to not feel the pain in Israel where teenagers at a concert, children in a park, grandparents at home, and even babies in cribs were gunned down, amidst other atrocities Hamas carried out, including taking dozens hostage. The sentiments were repeated when Mr. Modi spoke to Israel Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, condemning terrorism in all its forms. India's second big concern has been the safety of its citizens, especially as Israel began retaliatory strikes on Gaza. Around 18,000 Indians work or study in Israel, in addition to about 85,000 Israelis of Indian origin (from Maharashtra, Manipur, Mizoram, Kerala, and West Bengal). The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has chartered flights to bring them home. New Delhi has also added nuance to the initial position, with the MEA delivering the government's first formal statement. While repeating the condemnation of the Hamas attacks, the statement reminded Israel about the "universal obligation to observe international humanitarian law", as it carries out "global responsibility to fight the menace of terrorism…." In addition, the MEA reiterated its "long-standing and consistent" position on the Palestine issue.

The statement is a reminder of the tightrope India has walked since 1992, when New Delhi established full diplomatic ties with Israel, while continuing to support the Palestinian cause. There has been a shift towards Israel's position, given increasingly close bilateral relations, trade, technological assistance, military procurement, and counter-terrorism cooperation. In 2017, Mr. Modi became the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Israel, while in 2018, Mr. Netanyahu visited India. However, Mr. Modi was also the first Indian Prime Minister to make an official visit to Palestine. In 2017, India voted against the U.S. and Israel for an attempt to declare unilaterally all of Jerusalem as the Israeli capital. The policy lines New Delhi is continuing to draw seem clear: to abhor terrorism, but not to condone indiscriminate reprisal bombings, even as it holds its consistent position on Palestine. No claim to righting historical grievances can possibly be used by Hamas to explain its inhuman attacks on Israel. However, a responsible state cannot behave like an insurgent group, and Israel's latest demand, that more than a million Gaza residents must evacuate as it continues to pound the city and plans a possible ground offensive, will make Delhi's challenge at balancing policy even more complex.

Triangular contest

The MNF seeks to retain power by harping on ethnic issues in Mizoram

Mizoram, India's second least populated State, where civil society predominates politics like, arguably, no other in the country, is poised to see a three-cornered battle in the Assembly elections scheduled in November. Unlike other States, Mizoram's political contestation is less dependent on money and muscle power, as social service, public standing and the backing of religious and social organisations are key conditions for candidature. The ruling Mizo National Front has to contend not only with its traditional rival, the Indian National Congress, but also the Zoram Peoples' Movement (ZPM), which has presented it a tough challenge this time. It is also facing desertion from its ranks with the Speaker, Lalrinliana Sailo, latching on to the Bharatiya Janata Party. Chief Minister Zoramthanga, a seasoned leader of the formerly insurgent MNF, has played the ethnic card to win support from the Mizo electorate. By championing the cause of the Kuki-Zo people, embroiled in an ethnic conflict in neighbouring Manipur and by ignoring a directive from the Union government to collect biometric data of refugees from Myanmar, citing their ethnic affinity with the Mizo people, Mr. Zoramthanga has tried to steal a march over his opponents. While all parties in Mizoram share the government's and the ruling party's view on this issue, the MNF's vociferous positioning has given it an edge. During the peak of the conflict, civil society organisations managed demonstrations in solidarity with the Kuki-Zo people – an issue that has resonated with the Mizo electorate.

The ZPM, meanwhile, has sought to harp on the MNF's record on development and to leverage on its surprisingly good performance in the Lunglei Municipal Council polls, which indicate its enhanced urban base. In the rural areas, the strongest opposition to the MNF has emerged from the Congress, which is leading an alliance of parties, including the People's Conference and the Zoram Nationalist Party. Inflation has remained a key concern in the State, even relative to the rest of India over the past year, and this could be one of the factors behind voter choice. Despite being a small State – 0.1% of India's population and contributing close to 0.1% of the national GDP – Mizoram is a crucial border State with ample potential for economic growth led by the services and tourism sectors despite being a largely agrarian economy. It has also been regarded as an important gateway in India's 'Act East' strategy, but progress on infrastructure and projects connecting Mizoram to Myanmar and beyond has been limited. The multi-party contest should raise consciousness of matters related to development as much as those related to ethnic solidarity.

The Muslim MP is a disappearing entity

Ziya Us Salam

In his remarks on the Women's Reservation Bill, the All India Majlis-e-Ittehadul Muslimeen (AIMIM) president, Asaduddin Owaisi, lit a candle on the need to have a quota for Muslim women within the 33% reservation for women. Amidst the din in the House, the flicker went out soon, and gone with the wind was the need to increase the representation of women of India's largest minority in Parliament. In the passage of 17 Lok Sabhas so far, there have been just a handful of Muslim women. Mr. Owaisi said, "There have been 690 women MPs elected to Lok Sabha, and only 25 of them have come from the Muslim community."

Fading representation

The community needs a lantern more than a candle. The Muslim community, and not just its women, has been severely under-represented in the Lower House. Since Independence, Muslim representation has been far below the community's share in the general population of the country. According to the last Census in 2011, the Muslim population stood at a little over 14% of the total though the whispers which abound in the corridors of power, and the noises from the election campaign of many right-wing leaders, place it much higher. Some even peg it at around 20% in an obvious bid to perpetuate the myth of a Muslim population explosion.

That might just be a dog whistle, but even if one uses the figure in the last Census, the Muslim community ought to have at least 73 Members of Parliament in the Lok Sabha by the principle of proportional representation. The figure has never been reached, the highest being scaled in 1980 when 49 candidates cutting across party lines reached the Lok Sabha. It was the year the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was just born, with the Jan Sangh being consigned to history.

The reality makes grim reading. Since the first general election, the community has had on average only 27 Members of Parliament in the Lower House. In 2014, when everything was swept aside by a hurricane called Narendra Modi, the figure tapered off to its lowest – 23 MPs – less than half of the figure reached in 1980. The ruling party had no Muslim representative in the House.

In 2019, Muslim fortunes improved ever so slightly with the election of 25 MPs which, incidentally, was also the first time since Independence that the ruling party had no Muslim MP in either House of Parliament. Today, we have States which have never elected a Muslim MP just as there are States which have not elected one for more than three decades. For instance, the last Muslim to make it to the Lok Sabha from Gujarat was the late Congress leader Ahmed Patel who won in 1984 despite the fact that Muslims bring up a little under 10% of the State's population.

The Muslim community, and not just its women, is greatly under-represented in Parliament

In neighbouring Rajasthan, there has been only one Muslim MP since 1952 – Capt. Ayub Khan who won, in 1984 and 1991. Similarly, when the AIMIM's Imtiaz Jaleel won from Aurangabad in 2019, he became the first Muslim MP from Maharashtra since A.R. Antulay won in 2004. In Madhya Pradesh, the scene is similar. The vanishing Muslim MP phenomenon has been accentuated by the success of the BJP, a party which has exercised extreme economy in ticket distribution to Muslim candidates.

But it is not limited to the BJP. In the elections in 2019, many regional parties did not have even a single Muslim candidate in the fray. In Tamil Nadu, both the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam and the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam did not put up a single Muslim candidate. It was the same with the Biju Janata Dal in Odissa, the Telangana Rashtra Samithi (now the Bharat Rashtra Samithi) in Telangana and the Telugu Desam Party in Andhra Pradesh. The Aam Aadmi Party contested 35 seats across India, with only one given to a Muslim candidate.

Of course, things were different with the Uttar Pradesh-Bihar-Bengal belt. Here the Samajwadi Party-Bahujan Samaj Party-Rashtriya Janata Dal and Trinamool put up eight, 38, five and 12 candidates, respectively. Interestingly, even then, both the Samajwadi Party and the All India Trinamool Congress registered a significant decline in the number of Muslim candidates in comparison to 2014 when they had put up 36 and 21 candidates, respectively. It reinforced the belief that the Muslim MP is a disappearing entity, one who in the absence of political will, might just vanish altogether.

On reservation

It is not just about the absence of appropriate representation in recent years; the whole electoral system, deliberately or willy-nilly, seems loaded against the community. There are classic cases of seat reservation for Scheduled Castes (SC) from townships where they comprise only a little over 10% and Muslims are much higher in numbers. Karimganj in Assam has 52% Muslim population and 13% Scheduled Castes but the seat until recently was reserved for the latter.

In a country where political parties take caste and religion into account before ticket distribution, it automatically dims the prospects of Muslim representation; a seat where a Muslim candidate stood a realistic chance of being the first past the post is reserved for an SC. Certain seats are demarcated in a way which makes the Muslim vote redundant; the vote being neatly divided into half between the two constituencies, as we have seen in the latest demarcation of seats in Assam where Muslim-dominated seats have come down from 29 to 22, thanks to a merger of seats and a redrawing of the electoral map.

This lopsided representation puts not only Muslims at a loss but also projects our polity in a not-so-favourable light. The Muslim voice is in danger of being completely silenced. Back in the 1980s, when the Shah Bano case was the talk of town, did we hear any Muslim woman MP speaking on her? More recently, when Union Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad introduced the triple talaq Bill in 2019, the ruling party had no Muslim woman to participate in the debate. Surely, a Muslim woman defending the ruling dispensation on triple talaq would have sent out the right signals.

The last straw

The story was repeated in the debate on the Women's Reservation Bill. Predictably, the ruling party did not have any Muslim voice. Opposition leader Rahul Gandhi too talked about Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Other Backward Classes but amnesia overcame him when it came to Muslims. The worst was reserved for the end in the form of the communal slur-laden diatribe of BJP MP Ramesh Bidhuri against Bahujan Samaj Party MP (Amroha) Kunwar Danish Ali. It sent out a strong message: not only is it difficult for a Muslim to be elected to the Lok Sabha, but his opponents would also rather not have him in the House. It is time to hold a candle to not just the Bidhuris but also to a system which has almost made the Muslim MP invisible.

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A war that ends the Saudi-Israel 'normalisation' process

Talmiz Ahmad

is a former diplomat

As Hamas launched its lethal attacks on Israel on October 7, the assault has firmly overturned Israeli efforts, supported by the United States, to promote a normalisation of relations with Arab states without conceding anything to the Palestinians. Specifically, the Gaza war has dealt a mortal blow to the efforts for Saudi Arabia to normalise ties with Israel.

On September 22, Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu was at his arrogant and triumphalist best as he waved two maps to embellish his speech at the United Nations General Assembly: one depicted an isolated Israel in 1948, while the other showed Arab neighbours that now had peace agreements with Israel – Egypt, Sudan, the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, and Jordan. It also showed all the occupied Palestinian territories – the West Bank, Gaza and East Jerusalem – as integral parts of Israel. Mr. Netanyahu specifically applauded the normalisation process with Saudi Arabia under U.S. auspices, and insisted that the Palestinians should have no veto over the process.

U.S.-backed diplomacy

Mr. Netanyahu's remarks reflected the flurry of diplomatic activity over the last few months between Washington, Tel Aviv and Riyadh as U.S. officials pushed for diplomatic relations between Israel and Saudi Arabia, possibly within this year. American and Israeli officials publicly affirmed that the broad contours of the agreement have been finalised. Meanwhile, two Israeli Ministers visited Saudi Arabia for international conferences, signifying increasing bonhomie between the two countries.

The normalisation deal had hinged on three conditions that the kingdom had placed before the U.S.: U.S. approval for a civilian nuclear programme that provides for uranium enrichment within the country; an "iron-clad" U.S. security guarantee for the country, and sales of advanced weapons. The Americans were said to be insisting that Saudi Arabia back U.S. interests on oil prices, dilute its political, military and technological ties with China and deepen strategic engagement with the U.S.

Saudi Arabia has recognised that peace and stability in the region are not possible without Palestinian interests being addressed

Saudi Arabia's three conditions for normalisation were contentious in Israel and the U.S. Several U.S. politicians opposed the idea of giving security guarantees to an authoritarian state. They also warned the U.S. President against Saudi Arabia developing its own nuclear programme, believing that it poses an unacceptable proliferation risk – a concern shared in Israel as well. There were also obstacles to the U.S. sales of advanced weapons, largely due to Saudi Arabia's poor human rights record at home and in Yemen. Finally, there were concerns about Saudi insistence that arms supplies be accompanied by a transfer of technology to develop its arms industry. Despite these obstacles, the U.S. was confident the deal would go through.

Palestinian interests and concerns did not figure in these normalisation discussions. Given the extremist political coalition that Mr. Netanyahu heads, there was no interest in Israel to give even lip service to Palestinian aspirations for a sovereign and viable state or accept East Jerusalem as the capital of that state. In fact, Mr. Netanyahu was not even willing to promise freezing settlements in the West Bank, deferring annexation, or dismantling illegal outposts.

At that time, hundreds of Israel's religious zealots, backed by Mr. Netanyahu's Ministers, made provocative incursions into the Al-Aqsa complex, while the settlers in the West Bank increased violence against their Palestinian neighbours, usually with the support of the security forces.

Saudi-Iran ties

The Gaza war has once again placed the Palestinian issue at the centre of West Asian politics. Some writers are blaming Iran, arguing that the Islamic Republic has instigated the Hamas attacks to block Saudi Arabia's normalisation initiative with Israel. This argument has little credibility. Saudi-Iran ties have already been normalised under Chinese mediation: embassies have been re-opened in both capitals, high-level visits have been exchanged and economic cooperation is being expanded.

Now, following the Hamas attacks, the kingdom has recognised that peace and stability in the region are not possible without Palestinian interests being addressed. In an official statement, the Saudi Foreign Office has recalled the kingdom's "repeated warnings of the dangers of the explosion of the situation as a result of the occupation, the deprivation of the Palestinian people of their legitimate rights and the repetition of systematic provocations of its sanctities". This statement is referring to the abuses countenanced by the Netanyahu government – desecration of the Al-Aqsa Mosque complex and settlement expansion and settler violence in the West Bank. Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman has now asserted that the kingdom will "stand by the Palestinian people to achieve their legitimate rights to a decent life, achieve their hopes and aspirations, and achieve just and lasting peace".

Palestinian interests in focus

Again, the Saudis have abandoned recourse to insincere verbal assurances to the Palestinians that were under consideration during the normalisation negotiations. The search now is for concrete action to serve Palestinian interests, As the Saudi journalist, Faisal Abbas, has written: "… the international community must act now to activate a credible peace plan that enables a two-state solution".

Looking ahead, it has been obvious over the last three years that the kingdom had shrugged off the American yoke and was pursuing its foreign policy engagements in terms of its own interests, without any U.S. involvement. The kingdom rejects the U.S. interest in building an anti-China coalition globally and an anti-Iran cabal regionally.

Again, regardless of the U.S.'s wishes there is no question of Saudi Arabia accommodating the Americans on oil prices or diluting its comprehensive strategic ties with China. They exemplify its assertion of strategic autonomy and are an integral part of its quest for diverse, multifaceted, and substantial ties across Asia. Promoting the Palestinian cause will now form an important part of this foreign policy approach.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

India's stand

With the statement of India's External Affairs Ministry that New Delhi stands for a 'sovereign Palestine state', the country's long-standing and consistent policy on the issue remains unchanged. Eyebrows were raised after the initial statement by the Prime Minister. When India speaks about the obligation to uphold humanitarian principles, Israel is disregarding all such things and blocking almost every essential supply to the Gaza strip. Though Hamas has caused heavy damage, what Israel is doing now lacks proportionality and is aimed at total destruction.

J. Radhakrishna Kurup,
Ettumanoor, Kottayam, Kerala

India, which has now strongly positioned itself as one of the prominent voices of the Global South, needs to pitch for diplomacy and dialogue to end the war.

M. Jeyaram,
Sholavandan, Tamil Nadu

The long-drawn Ukraine war does not show signs of ending soon. And now, a new outbreak of war in West Asia makes it imperative for global leaders to reset their international priorities. The economies of the world would be dented if the two parallel wars continue.

Angara Venkata Girija Kumar,
Chennai

Response to 'Hunger Index'

The present regime's lack of appetite for 'inconvenient data' from any source is a well-known phenomenon. Hence, the response of the government to the Global Hunger Index 2023 (Inside pages, October 13), is hardly surprising. It is the people who face the stark reality of hunger. The Opposition parties must propose strategies to tackle hunger among the population.

A. Venkatasubramanian,
Tiruchi, Tamil Nadu

World Cup, conditions

Ideally the men's cricket World Cup 2023 should have commenced in November, which would have been a lot cooler. Fading light should not be an issue as most games are played under floodlights. Most cricket stadiums in India are huge concrete structures, and with the floodlights adding to the heat and sultry conditions, players especially those from the colder countries may not be able to perform at their optimum levels. The India-Australia clash in Chennai is a classic example of conditions playing a role, though not to a very significant extent. The question is why do players and spectators need to be caged?

Balasubramaniam Pavani,
Secunderabad

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the full postal address.

GROUND ZERO

Vehicles that got washed away in the floods lie in the sand along the Teesta river in Rangpo, Sikkim. RITU RAJ KONWAR

The river runneth over

A massive flood resulting from a glacier-lake outburst in Sikkim wreaked havoc in the early hours of October 4. It claimed at least 94 lives and destroyed the Chungthang dam, which is critical to the Teesta-III hydropower project. **Rahul Karmakar** reports on the tragedy and the conversations on dam building in a fragile region

There is a popular folk tale in Sikkim, told and retold in regions where the Lepchas live. The Lepchas are one of the three main ethnic groups of the State, the others being the Bhutia and Nepalese. The story goes that the male river Rangeet, angry after having lost a race downhill to the female river Rungnyu, turned from the spot of their proposed meeting back towards the Himalayas with an intensity that wreaked havoc in the region. In 2021, a song gave a modern twist to this folk tale. The song of resistance sung by Ongyal Lepcha goes, "I can drown everything that stands. Do tell them, so many rocks and hills I have cut through, how can these little hurdles hold me back?" The song apparently refers to the rage of the river, at the slew of hydropower projects in Sikkim.

On October 4, the song proved to be prophetic not for the Rangeet but for the Rungnyu, popularly known as the Teesta. The South Lhonak glacial lake, formed from the gradual melting of a Himalayan glacier and located about 17,000 feet above sea level in north-western Sikkim, suddenly breached its embankments and "burst", inundating the Teesta river basin. This caused flash floods, which swept away 14 bridges and the dam of a 1,200-megawatt hydropower project, damaged 1,825 houses, claimed at least 94 human lives, and forced 2,563 displaced people into 21 relief camps, according to government data. Seventy-eight people are reported missing.

The damage in Rangpo and Singtam

Bishnumaya Shanti, 70, a homemaker, is familiar with the folk tale. She says she had experienced the Teesta's destructive mood in October 1968, the last time the river had inflicted large-scale damage. "But that was nothing compared to what the river has done to us today," says Shanti whose house, built with the life savings of her family, was swept away. She is now at the Majigaon community hall-turned-relief camp near the police station in Rangpo town. This is the point of access to Sikkim via National Highway 10 from West Bengal. Shanti is heartbroken about losing all her belongings, but she is more relieved that all the members of her family managed to escape the river's fury in the nick of time.

Rangpo, in Pakyong district, has a population of 10,450 people. This is where the Rangpo river meets the Teesta. It was most badly hit by the floods along with Singtam, a major market 11 km upstream of the Teesta on the road to Gangtok, the State's capital. An Army unit at Bardang in between these regions was buried under debris. At least 23 personnel were swept away.

At Singtam, Prakash Pradhan, a trader, recalls watching in disbelief as the iconic Sherwani bridge across the Teesta facing his four-storey building swayed against the surging water and debris for about two minutes before giving way. The bridge connects Singtam in Gangtok district with Namchi, the headquarters of South Sikkim district. "As the water level kept rising and our first floor was half submerged, we rushed to the roof, hopped onto the top of the next building and the next until we were at a safe distance from the river," he says. It was about 3:30 a.m. and raining hard.

Pradhan and the residents of some 2,000 dwelling units in Singtam's market area returned the next morning to find their houses buried in about 15 feet of sand. The local administration advised two of his neighbours not to return to their houses. Both their buildings were cracked and hanging precariously over the river. A footpath behind them had already been swallowed up by the river.

"At least 18 people from our area are either dead or missing. They probably had no time to react to the river's fury," says Vishal Rai, a college student from the West Bengal part of Rangpo.

While Sikkim – aided by the Army, Border Roads Organisation, and other agencies – has been prompt in responding to the disaster in four of its districts, West Bengal is yet to assess the damage across the Kalimpong, Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri, and Cooch Behar districts through which the Teesta flows before meeting the Brahmaputra in Bangladesh. Access to Sikkim has been disrupted primarily because a 30-metre stretch of NH10 – that falls within the Gorkhaland Territorial Administration (GTA) in West Bengal – has been damaged.

"Many villages on the banks of the Teesta have been washed away and there are reports of several people dead and injured. We are holding an administrative meeting soon to assess the damage," says Anit Thapa, GTA's chief executive. The GTA, he adds, received ₹25 crore as assistance from the Mamata Banerjee government but nothing from the Centre, unlike Sikkim which received more than ₹44 crore.

Community service

The push for industrialisation led to Sikkim becoming a pharmaceutical hub more than a decade ago. The State has production units of 14 top Indian and international pharmaceutical companies, almost all of them along the Teesta, between Rangpo and Singtam.

The pharmaceutical boom led to an increase in real estate prices. Multi-storeyed buildings started coming up along the banks of the Teesta and its tributaries soon after the 2011 Sikkim earthquake that officially claimed 60 lives. A majority of the tenants are employees of these pharmaceutical companies.

Sanjib Tamang built his three-storey house at Rangpo in 2012 at an elevation considered safe from inundation during high floods. "This flash flood was much higher than what we encountered in the past," he says. Tamang salvaged only about 10% of the goods in his silt-filled grocery shop and shifted his two tenants – both pharmaceutical employees – to his restaurant in the market on higher ground.

O.P. Niroula, who leased out his house to Sarthak Patnaik and Rajesh Sahu, both from Odisha, shifted them to his second house in the almost untouched Majitar town upstream of the Teesta. Unfortunately, they lost all their belongings.

> Had I known nature would batter us, I would never have built a house here
>
> **H.N. SAPKOTA**
> Resident, Rangpo

Rangpo resident H.N. Sapkota, who rescued about 150 people from drowning on that fateful night, says everything happened too fast for him to process. "Had I known nature would batter us, I would never have built a house here," he says.

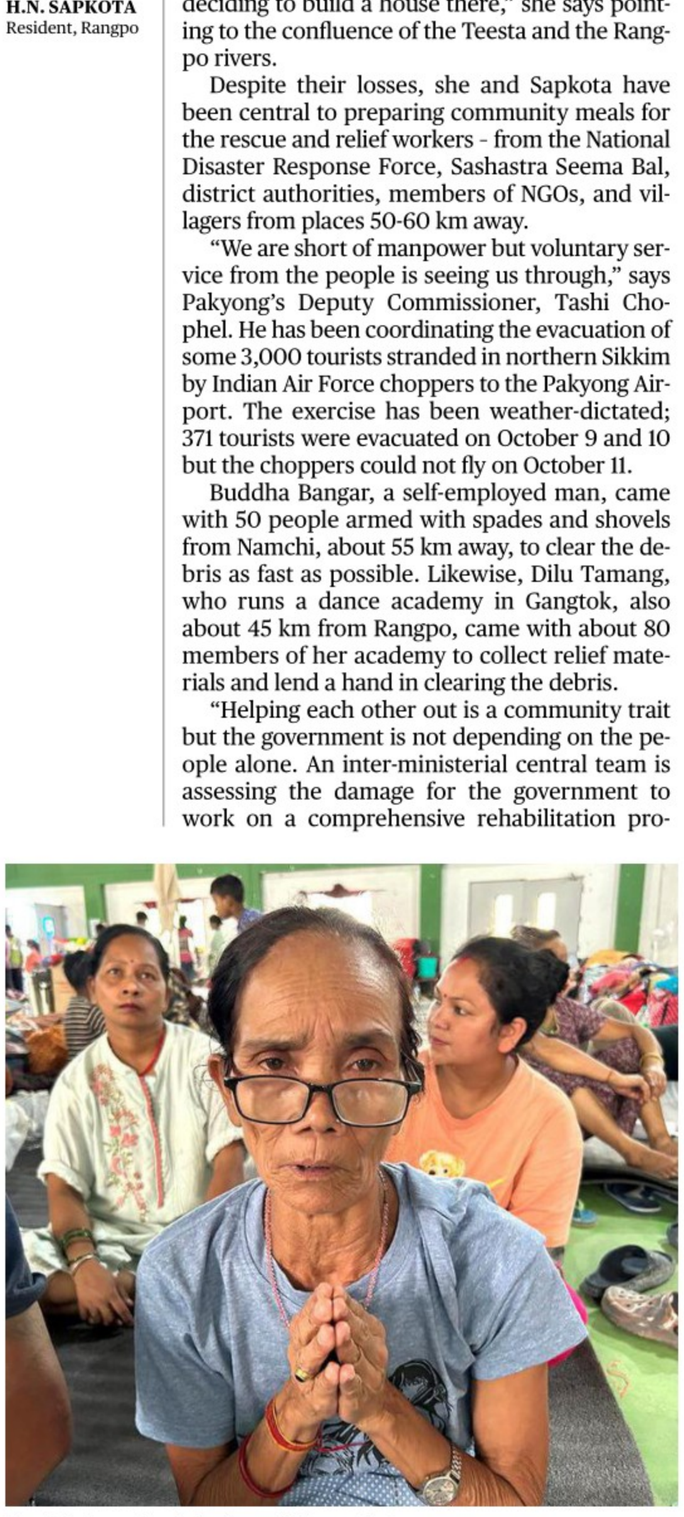
Teesta washed away the plot that Maita Hangma Subba, a homemaker, bought to build a permanent house. She had constructed a temporary structure and rented it out for a vehicle workshop, which was swept away along with a few vehicles. "I will probably think 10 times before deciding to build a house there," she says pointing to the confluence of the Teesta and the Rangpo rivers.

Despite their losses, she and Sapkota have been central to preparing community meals for the rescue and relief workers - from the National Disaster Response Force, Sashastra Seema Bal, district authorities, members of NGOs, and villagers from places 50-60 km away.

"We are short of manpower but voluntary service from the people is seeing us through," says Pakyong's Deputy Commissioner, Tashi Chophel. He has been coordinating the evacuation of some 3,000 tourists stranded in northern Sikkim by Indian Air Force choppers to the Pakyong Airport. The exercise has been weather-dictated; 371 tourists were evacuated on October 9 and 10 but the choppers could not fly on October 11.

Buddha Bangar, a self-employed man, came with 50 people armed with spades and shovels from Namchi, about 55 km away, to clear the debris as fast as possible. Likewise, Dilu Tamang, who runs a dance academy in Gangtok, also about 45 km from Rangpo, came with about 80 members of her academy to collect relief materials and lend a hand in clearing the debris.

"Helping each other out is a community trait but the government is not depending on the people alone. An inter-ministerial central team is assessing the damage for the government to work on a comprehensive rehabilitation programme," says Assembly Speaker Arun Kumar Upreti.



Flood victims take shelter in a relief camp in Rongpo. RITU RAJ KONWAR

Blame game

The disaster in Sikkim and West Bengal downstream has been attributed to the glacial lake outburst flood (GLOF). The floodwaters from the South Lhonak glacial lake reached the 1,200-MW Teesta-III hydel project at Chungthang via the Lachen River. The 60-metre-high rock-filled concrete dam, Sikkim's highest, is where the Lachen meets the Lachung to flow down as the Teesta. An investigation is being conducted to ascertain if the dam's spillways or openings to allow excess water to flow out were opened before the floodwaters from the GLOF reached Chungthang, which is about 55 km downstream of the lake.

> Our soil is very young, and North Sikkim is a landslide-prone area. So, I feel the construction of a dam is not advisable
>
> **KARMA LODAY BHUTIA**
> Sikkim's Forest and Environment Minister

Teesta-III had a gross storage capacity of 5.08 million cubic meters and a live storage capacity of 3.3 million cubic meters. The combined discharge of storage water and GLOF from Teesta-III hit the NHPC's 510 MW Teesta-V and the under-construction 500 MW Teesta-VI downstream in about an hour, causing considerable damage.

Sunil Saraogi, the executive chairman of Sikkim Urja Limited, which operates the hydropower project, says the project operators received information from the Indo-Tibetan Border Police about the GLOF at 11:58 p.m. on October 3.

"Our team of 12 or 13 people headed to the dam at Chungthang to open the gates, but the flash floods struck before they could act, forcing them to flee for their lives. The dam got washed away in 10 minutes after midnight. The bridge connecting the powerhouse was also washed away," he says. Eleven employees of the project have been missing since the flash floods.

The Sikkim government has a 60.08% stake in the Chungthang project. Sikkim Chief Minister Prem Singh Tamang attributed the disaster to the "substandard construction" of the Teesta-III dam at Chungthang and said the Sikkim Democratic Front (SDF) government headed by Pawan K. Chamling was to blame for it. The BJP legislator representing the Gangtok seat, Y.T. Lepcha, went to the extent of filing a police complaint against Chamling. However, the BJP, an ally of Tamang's Sikkim Krantikari Morcha which Tamang belongs to, softened its stand later. "This is not the time to blame each other but to work together for seeking more funds from the Centre to deal with natural disasters better," stated State BJP spokesperson Dolaram Giri.

The SDF said the Chief Minister was trying to score brownie points with the Assembly elections due in the first part of 2024. "There should be a forensic probe by central agencies into the dam break. Before making flippant statements, the Chief Minister should realise that Chungthang was given environmental clearance by the Environment Ministry, and technical clearances by the Central Water Commission and the Central Electricity Authority. It has become a habit for him to blame the SDF for everything," SDF leader M.K. Subba says.

Warning failure

The Lepchas who revere the Teesta believe that Chungthang should not have been built in the first place. "The State government pushed the project despite two years of hunger strikes against it from June 2007 to September 2009. Our worst fear about Chungthang became a reality although, thankfully, the disaster struck at night. Had it been during the daytime, the damage would have been much higher," Gyatso Lepcha, the general secretary of Affected Citizens of Teesta (ACT), says.

The ACT has renewed its demand for scrapping the Chungthang project and decommissioning the NHPC's 510-MW Teesta-V located at Dikchu, downstream. Locals say the dam has become a threat to the people of Zang village.

Sikkim's Forest and Environment Minister Karma Loday Bhutia has taken a stand against reconstructing the dam. "Our soil is very young, and North Sikkim is a landslide-prone area. So, I feel the construction of a dam is not advisable," he says. But Sikkim Urja Limited insists that the dam and bridge have to be rebuilt for the State's energy security, entailing a huge expenditure.

Khamsung Lepcha, a resident of Chungthang, claims the dam could have been damaged by Army explosives swept down from a unit at Chhaten, about 3 km upstream of Chungthang. This could have weakened the structure for the surging waters to burst through. "We saw fireworks in the river," he says. There have been reports of Army explosives being recovered from the downstream of Teesta up to the Bangladesh border.

Sikkim's Chief Secretary V.B. Pathak says there was no official confirmation about explosives having impacted the dam, but admits that the possibility needs to be examined. He also says that an Advanced Warning System was installed in September at the South Lhonak Lake and Sakochu Lake - both glacial lakes - jointly by the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), the Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority, and the Swiss Development Corporation. The system was to give reports to be monitored by the Swiss agency in consultation with the NDMA. "Most probably, the system was not working when this incident took place," he says.

The police did sound the alarm in habitations along the Teesta but most residents took it to be a routine exercise. "The authorities should consider a different alarm system during an imminent major disaster," says Karma Bhutia, a student helping out at Singtam.

Mayalmit Lepcha, president of the Sikkim Indigenous Lepcha Tribal Association, says Sikkim is "Mayal Lyang" or a land blessed by the gods. "How can it remain that way if we do not let our rivers, specifically the sacred Teesta, flow freely," he says.

From Page One

Israel tells Palestinians to leave northern Gaza

Israel has bombarded Gaza round the clock since Hamas' attack, in which its fighters massacred hundreds in southern Israel and snatched some 150 people to Gaza as hostages.

Hamas said Israel's airstrikes killed 13 of the hostages in the past day. It said the dead included foreigners but did not give their nationalities.

Israeli military spokesperson Rear Adm. Daniel Hagari denied that, telling *Al-Jazeera* Arabic that "we have our own information and do not believe the lies of Hamas".

Israel said on Thursday it would allow no supplies into Gaza until Hamas frees the hostages.

Goods exports down; Aug. tally lifts outlook

The revised goods trade deficit in August stood at $21.65 billion, instead of the 10-month high of $24.2 billion reported earlier, and eased further to $19.37 billion in September. The overall goods deficit in the second quarter of 2023-24 is now $59.4 billion, just 5.6% over the first quarter tally, belying economists' fears that weaker trade balances originally reported for July and August may exacerbate the country's current account deficit.

On a year-on-year basis, September's goods trade deficit was 31% lower and narrowed the tally for the first half of the year to $115.9 billion, 17.7% lower than a year ago.

This is because of a steeper 12.2% decline in imports between April and September 2023, in comparison to exports which are now down 8.8%.

Estimates for exports of services in September also indicated a mild 0.5% uptick, compared to a 0.4% decline in August. The final services exports numbers for these two months will be released by the Reserve Bank of India later.

Import bill down

"So far this year, oil exports have declined 17.5%, but non-oil exports have held up better and dropped only 6.3%," said Bank of Baroda economist Aditi Gupta. However, non-oil and non-gold imports, a proxy for domestic demand, have remained weak and declined by 10% over the last year, she pointed out.

Top Ministry officials, however, stressed that the volumes of inbound shipments remained stable even as the year-on-year decline in prices of commodities, especially petroleum and edible oils, caused the import bill to dip in September. Lower prices also pared the value of petroleum exports, though shipment volumes were 22.1% higher between April and August.

Exports of gems and jewellery

Among major sectors, the exports of gems and jewellery, down 24.3% so far in 2023-24, were the worst hit, followed by chemicals (-15.8%) and textiles (-8.6%).

Imports of gold, whose prices have risen 8% this year, are up 9.8%, and may rise further due to festive spending in this quarter.

SC raps Maharashtra Speaker for 'disregarding' court order

Top court says anti-defection proceedings against CM Shinde and other MLAs reduced to a 'charade'; it slams Narwekar for defeating orders to prepare a time schedule, warns that he will be held accountable; directs to take action before election

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday slammed Maharashtra Assembly Speaker Rahul Narwekar for reducing the anti-defection proceedings against Chief Minister Eknath Shinde and other MLAs to a "charade", saying that he cannot "merrily" defer hearings and has to decide before the next elections.

Chief Justice D.Y. Chandrachud, heading a three-judge Bench, said the Speaker has disregarded the court's order on September 18 to prepare a time schedule to complete the disqualification proceedings under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution against the Shinde camp. The Bench had at the time given Mr. Narwekar a week to prepare the timeline and file it before the top court.

On Friday, the Chief Justice said that "since nothing happened in the disqualification proceedings (against the Shinde camp) all these months, we will be constrained to say that he must take a decision in two months". The court even considered ordering day-to-day hearings before the Speaker.

> Somebody has to advise the Speaker that he cannot defeat the orders of the Supreme Court like this... He is acting as an election tribunal when he is hearing disqualification petitions under the Tenth Schedule
>
> **D.Y. CHANDRACHUD**
> Chief Justice of India

'Advise the Speaker'

"Somebody has to advise the Speaker that he cannot defeat the orders of the Supreme Court like this... He is acting as an election tribunal when he is hearing disqualification petitions under the Tenth Schedule. He is amenable to the jurisdiction of this court....," Chief Justice Chandrachud addressed Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta, appearing for the Speaker.

"What kind of time schedule has he prescribed so far? Nothing has happened in the proceedings... Whenever the matter is scheduled before the court, he (Speaker) holds some kind of a hearing... Tenth Schedule proceedings before the Speaker acting as an election tribunal should not be reduced to a charade," Chief Justice Chandrachud said.

The Chief Justice asked Mr. Mehta and the Advocate-General of Maharashtra to "advise" the Speaker. "Sit down with him. Advise him on how to proceed. It is obvious he needs some assistance," Chief Justice said.

Senior advocates Kapil Sibal and A.M. Singhvi, for petitioner and Uddhav Thackeray loyalist Sunil Prabhu, said the court had to decide the responsibilities of the Speaker while acting as an election tribunal under the Tenth Schedule.

Mr. Mehta in turn blamed the Uddhav Thackeray camp for rushing to the Supreme Court like "school children complaining to the teacher".

'Don't drag till polls'

The court categorically said it would not allow the Speaker to drag on the disqualification proceedings till the next elections and make the Tenth Schedule proceedings against the Shinde camp infructuous.

"We expected the Speaker to do his job. If he is not doing it, we will hold him accountable as an election tribunal... you must apprise the Speaker. We are giving you an opportunity until October 16. If we do not find a proper time schedule set out, we will issue a peremptory order fixing a time period (for the disqualification proceedings)," the Chief Justice told Mr. Mehta, fixing the next hearing on October 17.

On May 11, a five-judge Bench directed the Maharashtra Speaker, in his capacity as tribunal under the Tenth Schedule of the Constitution, to hear and decide the disqualification petitions within a "reasonable time". A total of 56 MLAs are facing disqualification under the Tenth Schedule. There are 34 disqualification petitions pending, waiting for Speaker Narwekar to hear and decide.

In his petition, Mr. Prabhu had said the Supreme Court, in its May 11 judgment on the Thackeray-Shinde battle for control over Shiv Sena, had trusted Mr. Narwekar to impartially hear and decide the anti-defection proceedings.

'Maratha case curative plea will come up in due course'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India D. Y. Chandrachud on Friday said a curative petition against the top court's judgment holding the Maratha reservation law unconstitutional will be listed for consideration in due course. The Chief Justice was responding to an oral mentioning for an early listing of the curative plea.

A five-judge Review Bench had in July 2021 refused to reconsider the judgment. It had held, in a majority view, that the Centre alone was empowered to identify socially and educationally backward classes (SEBC) to include them in the Central List for claiming reservation benefits.

"The grounds taken in the review petition do not fall within the limited ground on which review petition can be considered. The various grounds taken in the review petition have already been dealt with in the main judgment. We do not find any sufficient ground to entertain this review petition. The review petition is dismissed," the five-judge Bench had said.

SC to hear plea by academics against seizure of electronic devices on Nov. 2

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday listed on November 2 a petition highlighting the concern expressed by the academia about the seizure of mobile phones and computers of the academia as "electronic evidence" by investigating agencies during searches.

The case was orally mentioned for early hearing by senior advocate Nitya Ramakrishnan and advocate Prasanna S., appearing for Professors Ram Ramaswamy, Sujata Patel, M. Madhava Prasad, Mukul Kesavan, and Deepak Malghan.

Violation of privacy

The academics have contended that the seizure of their personal digital devices amounted to a violation of their right to privacy and they run the risk of losing their life's work when police carry off their computers and digital storage devices after a search.

The case resonates with issues raised by the recent Delhi Police searches against journalists and activists in the *NewsClick* case.

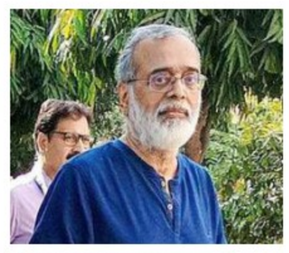
A recent letter from 16 media collectives to the Chief Justice of India (CJI) had urged the top court to frame norms against the seizure of laptops and mobile phones of journalists on a whim. In a recent hearing in the *Ram Ramaswamy* case, a Bench led by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul remarked that academics had a right to protect their work.

The Home Ministry, in its affidavit, had said that criminals also "use these devices in the facilitation of their unlawful activities". "Today, virtually every crime has an electronic component in terms of computers and electronic technology being used to facilitate the crime," the Ministry said.

It contended that these devices may contain electronic evidence related to a crime under probe, whether it was a conventional crime or a terrorist act.

HC rejects petition by *NewsClick* founder, official against arrest

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI



Prabir Purkayastha

The Delhi High Court on Friday refused to interfere with the arrest and subsequent police remand of *NewsClick* founder Prabir Purkayastha and the online news portal's human resources department head, Amit Chakraborty, in a case lodged under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA).

Mr. Purkayastha and Mr. Chakraborty were arrested by the Special Cell of the Delhi Police on October 3 pursuant to a FIR registered on August 17. The police, in the FIR, have named Mr. Purkayastha, activist Gautam Navlakha, who is under house arrest in another terror case, and U.S.-based businessman Neville Roy Singham.

The duo challenged their arrest in the High Court saying that the grounds of arrest were not conveyed to them in writing either at the time of arrest or even to date. They also challenged the order of remand given by a special judge on October 4, saying it was passed in the absence of their lawyers.

The High Court, however, rejected their contention saying there was no "procedural infirmity" or violation of constitutional provisions in relation to the arrest and the remand order. "In the present case... the offences which are alleged, fall within the ambit of Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967, and directly impact the stability, integrity and sovereignty of the country and are of utmost importance since they would affect the national security," it said.

The High Court further said the Supreme Court verdict directing investigating agencies to provide the grounds of arrest in writing to the accused in Prevention of Money Laundering Act cases would not apply to UAPA cases. The grounds of arrest need to be informed to the arrestee within 24 hours, but the furnishing of such grounds, in writing, was not mandated under the UAPA, it clarified.

The court, however, added that considering the stringent provisions of the UAPA, it would be advisable that the investigating agencies, henceforth, provide grounds of arrest in writing, though after redacting what in their opinion would constitute "sensitive material".

Solicitor-General Tushar Mehta had told the court that a "huge" sum of money, about ₹75 crore, was sent by a person who is staying in China [to *NewsClick*] and "the purpose is to ensure that the integrity and stability of the country is compromised".

Srinagar Jamia Masjid shut over Palestine protest fear

The Hindu Bureau
SRINAGAR

The caretakers of the historic Jamia Masjid in Srinagar have accused the Lieutenant-Governor's administration of closing the mosque, preventing Friday prayers, and placing the Kashmir Valley's chief cleric, Mirwaiz Umar Farooq, under house arrest again.

The move comes amid fears that protests against Palestinian deaths in the ongoing conflict would erupt after the prayers.

A spokesman of the Anjuman Auqaf Jamia Masjid, the caretaker body of the mosque, said that police officials had closed the gates of the mosque and conveyed that, "Friday prayers will not be allowed today".

Entry barred: The caretaker body of the mosque said that the police closed its gates on Friday. NISSAR AHMAD

"The Mirwaiz, who was finally allowed to offer Friday prayers and deliver Friday sermon, has yet again been put under house arrest early this morning," the spokesman said.

In a statement, Mirwaiz Farooq said that the people of Kashmir stand "united in unwavering solidarity with the people of Palestine, sharing a deep hope for the resolution of the conflict and an end to the profound human suffering it has caused".

'Govt. misusing laws to target journalists, activists, critics'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, and 10 other international rights groups on Friday jointly condemned what they termed as Indian authorities' misuse of counter-terrorism laws, financial regulations, and other laws to "silence journalists, human rights defenders, activists, and critics of the government".

Their statement comes in the wake of the recent search and seizure operations conducted against at least 46 journalists associated with news portal *NewsClick*, and the subsequent arrest of the website's editor and Human Resources head.

The statement also refers to the recent sanction granted by the Delhi L-G to prosecute author Arundhati Roy in a 13-year-old case, with the human rights groups speculating that this was a reaction to Ms. Roy's participation in protests against the *NewsClick* raids.

'Escalating crackdown'

"The arrest and raids at *NewsClick*, an outlet known to criticize the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)-led government for failing to uphold human rights, are the latest attempts by authorities to harass and intimidate independent journalists," said the statement.

"Since the BJP government, led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, came to power in 2014, Indian authorities have carried out an escalating crackdown on the media and civil society," the statement said

The rights groups urged Indian authorities to "immediately and unconditionally" release all journalists, human rights defenders, activists, and critics arrested in politically motivated cases, drop all charges against them, and stop threatening, harassing and intimidating them, including through criminal prosecution.

"They have arrested journalists on spurious terrorism and other criminal charges, and have routinely targeted critics and independent news organizations with allegations of financial irregularities," the statement said.

CBI arrests 22-year-old in Manipur murder case

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The CBI has arrested a key accused in connection with the kidnapping and murder of two Meitei students, who went missing in Manipur during the violence in July.

Their bodies are yet to be found.

The Central agency arrested Paolunmang, 22, in Pune. He was produced before a special court in Guwahati. The CBI has secured his custody till October 16 for interrogation, an official said.

Adani Group siphoned off ₹12,000 cr. in 2 years: Congress

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Alleging that the Adani Group may be behind the biggest scam modern India has seen, the Congress on Friday said fresh revelations indicate that more than ₹12,000 crore may have been siphoned out of the country in two years.

Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh claimed that this was "not a metaphorical loot but literally theft" from the pockets of crores of Indians.

Coal shipments

He said the latest revelations in the *Financial Times*, which examined 30 Adani coal shipments between 2019 and 2021 amounting to 3.1 million tonnes, found a 52% profit even on a low margin business like coal trading.

Jairam Ramesh also accused the BJP government of "helping" the Adani Group acquire assets

Mr. Ramesh also accused the BJP government of "helping" the Adani Group acquire assets and said "the BJP is kept flush with electoral bond funds which allows it to buy MLAs at will and break Opposition parties".

"This is the biggest scam of modern India. It combines greed and heartlessness with a cold contempt for the people of India," he said in the statement.

'People will answer'

"It is based on the conviction that there is no scam that cannot be 'managed' and that there is no issue that cannot be diverted from. But the Shahenshah is mistaken. India will not be captured by Modani. But the people of India will answer in 2024," Mr. Ramesh added.

Denying wrongdoing, the Adani Group had said that the *Financial Times* report was "clever recycling and selective misrepresentation of publicly available facts and information.

Parliamentary Speakers vow to fight terror and violence

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Speakers of Parliament of the G-20 nations hailed the enactment of the women's reservation law in India, and also pledged to use their legislative, budgetary and oversight functions to combat terrorism and violent extremism.

The joint statement, issued on day one of the ninth G-20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P-20), also condemned terrorism in all forms and manifestations, including those on the basis of xenophobia, racism and other forms of intolerance, or in the name of religion or belief.

"The unanimous adoption of the Joint Declaration at P-20 Bharat exemplifies the spirit of *Vasudhaiva Kutumbkam*. As public representatives, we pledge to collaborate for a human-centric, prosperous and harmonious future. Many congratulations to all the delegates for their support," Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla said in a post on X (formerly Twitter).

Terrorism, for any reason, is against humanity: Modi

There is still no consensus on the definition of terrorism even in the UN, Prime Minister says at Parliamentary Speakers' Summit; he emphasises on a tough approach to counter the challenge

Sandeep Phukan
NEW DELHI

Amid the ongoing war between Israel and the Palestinian militant group, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday asserted that terrorism anywhere in the world, for any reason, is against humanity.

Addressing the inaugural session of the Ninth G-20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P-20), Mr. Modi pointed out that there is no consensus on the definition of terrorism even in the United Nations (UN) and "enemies of humanity take advantage of this".

Narendra Modi and Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla during the ninth G-20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit in New Delhi on Friday. ANI

'Time for peace'

Noting that a divided world cannot provide solutions to global challenges, the Prime Minister said "this is time for peace and brotherhood" and called for an end to the "crisis in global trust and move forward with a human-centric approach". "Everyone is aware of what is happening in various parts of the world. The world is grappling with conflicts and confrontations, such a world full of conflicts and confrontations is not in anyone's interest," Mr. Modi said.

The event, held at the Yashobhoomi convention centre in New Delhi's Dwarka area, is being attended by Speakers of Parliaments of G-20 members and invitee countries. However, amid the diplomatic freeze between India and Canada, Speaker of the Canadian Senate, Raymonde Gagne, dropped out last minute. While Canada had accused Indian agents of killing one of their citizens, Khalistani separatist leader Hardeep Singh Nijjar, India has been vocal about Canada being a "safe haven" for terrorists.

Calling for a "tough approach" against terrorism, Mr. Modi pointed out how India has been a victim of cross-border terrorism for decades. He recalled how terrorists had targeted the old Parliament building when it was in session. "Terrorists wanted to take hostage, kill MPs. India has dealt with numerous such terror incidents. Now the world is also realising how big a challenge terrorism is for the world. Terrorism, wherever it may be, for whatever reason, in whatever form, is against humanity," he said.

Mr. Modi lamented that even now there is no consensus on the definition of terrorism. "Even today, the International Convention on Combating Terrorism is waiting for consensus in the UN. The enemies of humanity are taking advantage of this attitude of the world," he said.

Referring to the democracy in India, Mr. Modi observed that the general elections in the country are considered the biggest festival and next year, 100 crore voters will be eligible to exercise their mandate. He said the use of electronic voting machines had increased transparency as well as efficiency while conducting elections. "I extend an advance invitation to all the delegates of the P-20 Summit to come and watch the elections to be held next year," he said.

Operation Ajay: India brings back 212 citizens from Israel in first flight

Kallol Bhattacherjee
NEW DELHI

India brought back the first batch of citizens from crisis-hit Israel under Operation Ajay on Friday. The first flight carried 212 citizens who had registered with the Embassy of India soon after the security situation worsened with Hamas' attack against Israel on last Saturday. A Palestinian diplomat stationed in New Delhi said 14 members of his family had been killed in the Israeli bombing.

Operation Ajay's first flight arrived at the Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport early in the morning, with Union Minister Rajeev Chandrashekhar present to welcome the passengers. "The operation is very clear as our External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar has already said. It is consistent with our PM's motto of not leaving any Indian behind," said Mr. Chandrashekhar.

"We woke up to sounds of air raid sirens. We stay in central Israel and I don't know what shape this conflict will take," said Shashwat Singh soon after landing at Delhi airport along with his wife. The post-doctoral researcher in agriculture, who has been staying in Israel since 2019, said that the sound of those sirens and the unsettling experience of the past few days continued to haunt him.

Sigh of relief: Families evacuated from Israel arriving at the Delhi airport on Friday. SHASHI SHEKHAR KASHYAP

Other passengers also painted a grim picture of the situation, and the ongoing exchange of rockets and missiles between the two sides. However, they added that physical safety was possible even in these circumstances because of the underground shelters that the Israeli government has constructed all over the country.

According to the Ministry of External Affairs spokesperson, Israel has nearly 18,000 Indians and the airlift operation is aiming to cater to those who are willing to be evacuated. People are being accommodated in aircraft on a "first-come, first-serve" basis. Officials have indicated that the number of evacuees may increase if the crisis prolongs.

Army studying attack on Israel to imbibe lessons on threats

Dinakar Peri
NEW DELHI

The Army is closely analysing the unprecedented, multi-pronged attacks on Israel by the militant group Hamas to draw relevant lessons, especially the use of power gliders by militants to cross over by air, said defence sources.

"The aerial attacks, especially the use of power gliders, is of particular concern for us. The idea of the study is to quickly draw the lessons relevant to our context," a source with knowledge of the matter said.

Other relevant agencies are also studying the attacks very closely given the nature of the terror threats that India faces, another source said.

Last weekend, Hamas hit Israel by land, sea and air. The group fired a few thousand rockets as hundreds of its cadres breached a wall and entered Israel. The militants used power gliders to enter Israel while small drones were used to drop bombs.

India's abortion law is pro-choice, liberal, ahead of other nations: CJI

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud on Friday said India's abortion law was liberal, pro-choice and far ahead of other countries while hearing the case of a married woman who wants to medically terminate her 26-week pregnancy.

"There is no doubt that our law is far ahead of other countries. We will not have a Roe versus Wade situation here. Our law is liberal and pro-choice," Chief Justice Chandrachud observed in court. *The Roe* versus *Wade* saw the U.S. Supreme Court rule that the country's Constitution generally protected the right to abortion.

The remarks by Chief Justice Chandrachud was in reference to submissions led by Additional Solicitor-General Aishwarya Bhati that the provisions in the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act allowed women to opt for abortion even after the 24-week limit if a board of doctors agree that the continuation of pregnancy was a risk to her life or if a substantial anonymity was medically detected in the foetus.

However, Ms. Bhati had said that in this case, the woman was married. This was her third pregnancy. Doctors had pointed to a "viable baby" in case she opted to carry the pregnancy to its full term.

The woman's counsel however submitted and produced medical prescriptions allegedly showing that she had been suffering from postpartum psychosis from October last year, shortly after her second pregnancy. He said the medicines she was having to treat her illness were not conducive to her pregnancy.

The court referred the prescriptions to the scrutiny of an AIIMS medical board. The Bench asked the board to undertake an independent evaluation as to whether alternate medication "consistent with her pregnancy was available so as to neither jeopardise the well-being of the woman or the foetus". It listed the case on October 16.

Cong. to release first list of candidates for M.P. poll tomorrow

Mehul Malpani
BHOPAL

Congress leader Randeep Surjewala said on Friday that the party will release its first list of candidates for the Madhya Pradesh Assembly election on Sunday.

After the party's central election committee meeting in New Delhi, party State president Kamal Nath said discussions were held on about 60 seats.

The election will be held on November 17.

After the meeting, Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge took to microblogging site X and said the youth, women, Dalits, tribals and backward classes of the State will get justice in a few days.

"This time the public will not allow the formation of an undemocratic BJP government in Madhya Pradesh through the back door. This time the traitors will get a befitting reply. Congress is moving towards full majority," he said.

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : 241,242,243,244,245,246,247,248,249,250,251/SE/PHC/ TSR/2023-24, **JJM -** 1. Clearwater gravity main from Mudavannur to Kootanad, 2. CWPM from Thiruvilwamala Sump to Chepakunnu and Kerakunnu tanks, 3. WSS to Desamangalam-Supplying, Laying Raw Water Pumping mains, 4. Supply and Laying of CWPM from Chalakudy WTP to water tanks, 5. WSS to Irinjalakuda - 12m dia intake well cum pump house, Raw water pump set, 500 KVA & 100 KVA transformer at Well site, 6. CWPM,CWGM to various Areas, and CWPM to varakara sump , mangalamthandu GLSR, 7. RWPM from Thottumukham intake well cum pump house to 25 MLD WTP at Varandarappally, 8. Supply and Laying CWPM 500mm dia DI K9 pipe from WTP Vynthala (26.1MLD) to tank at Kodothukkunnu, 9. Supplying and Laying CWPM from Olari sump to Puzhakkal and Supply, and Commissioning 275 HP Centrifugal pump set, 10. WSS to Tholur - CWPM,11. WSS to Irinjalakuda - 600 mm dia DI K9 pipe from WTP water pumping main. **EMD :** Rs. 5,00,000/-, 2,00,000/-, **Tender fee :** Rs. 17700/-,11800, **Last Date for submitting Tender :** 27-10-2023 03:00:pm, **Phone :** 0487-2423230, **Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in**

Superintending Engineer
PH Circle, Thrissur

KWA-JB-GL-6-1368-2023-24

TIRUMALA TIRUPATI DEVASTHANAMS : TIRUPATI
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ENGINEER — TENDER NOTICE

Adv.No.57/D3/CE/TTD/2023-24 & NIT No.215 to 217/SE-II/TTD/2023-24 Dt:12/10/2023

Name of works: (1) Providing permanent queue lines up to GG Dam Circle along the outer ring road at Tirumala, **Amount Rs.1800 Lakhs,** Time for completion 6 months. **(2)** Formation of Road from VSRH2 Junction to Outer Ring Road through MVRH at Tirumala, **Amount Rs.1080 Lakhs,** Time for completion 9 months. **(3)** Widening of existing 2 lane road to 4 lane from Akasaganga to ORR at Tirumala, **Amount Rs.4000 Lakhs,** Time for completion 12 months.
NOTE: For full details log on to the website https://www.tirumala.org.

Roc.No.PR4/13959/Adv.No.225/PRO/2023, Dated:13-10-2023 — **EXECUTIVE OFFICER**

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
Ramayapatnam Port Development Corporation Limited
2nd Floor, IHC Corporate, Industrial Park, Mangalagiri-522503, Guntur District, Andhra Pradesh.

Dated: 13-Oct-2023

Applications are invited from interested candidates for the following posts on contract basis to work at Ramayapatnam Port, SPSR Nellore District, Andhra Pradesh.

S.No.	Name of the Post	Recruitment	Monthly Remuneration
1.	Senior Pilot	1	Rs.2,65,000/-
2.	Trainee Pilot	1	Rs.1,30,000/-
3.	Wireless Operators/ VHF Operators	4	Rs.32,000/-
4.	Safety Officer	2	Rs.16,000 - 20,000/-
5.	AE Communication	1	Rs.30,000/-

Interested candidates may please go through the website for further details
https://apmaritime.in/#/careers
DIPR 2410PP/CL, Dt: 13-10-2023 — **Sd/- Managing Director, RPDCL**

PUNJAB STATE POWER CORPORATION LTD
(Regd. Office: PSEB Head Office, The Mall, Patiala)
Corporate Identity Number: U40109PB2010SGC033813
Website: www.pspcl.in, (Contact No. 96461-20691)

Tender Enquiry No. 122/Dy.CE/Th.Op./F&S-43Vol-XII/O&M/GHTP/2023
Dated:12/10/2023

Dy. Chief Engineer / Thermal Operation Circle,GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat invites E-Tender for the work: To provide assistance in the work under Fire & Safety Cell under Thermal Operation Circle in the execution of Fire & Safety jobs in General Duty/ Shift Duty (Round the clock) at GHTP for stage-I&II units GHTP, Lehra Mohabbat. For detailed NIT & tender specifications, Please refer to https://eproc.punjab.gov.in from 12/10/2023 from 13:00 hrs onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at https://eproc.punjab.gov.in

GHTP- 82/23 — **76155/12/2280/2023/28819**

CAPITAL REGION URBAN TRANSPORT
Govt of Odisha
Plot No 548/1452, Kalarahanga, Patia, Bhubaneswar-751031, Odisha
Phone No. 0674-3501580, E-Mail Id :- crutbbsr@gmail.com

No. 2181 — *Date: 11.10.2023*

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB) - BID IDENTIFICATION No.2181/G.M (Engg.)/CRUT/2023-24

The **General Manager (Engg.), CRUT, Bhubaneswar** on behalf of Managing Director, CRUT invites **Request For Proposal** in **DOUBLE COVER SYSTEM** for **"Construction of Electric Bus Depot at Naraj, Cuttack, Odisha on Turnkey basis (Design & execution)" & "Construction of Electric Bus Depot at Pokhariput, Bhubaneswar, Odisha on Turnkey basis (Design & execution)"** from the class of eligible contractors as mentioned in column-5 (five) registered with the State Governments and Contractors of equivalent Grades / Class Registered with Central Government / MES / Railways for execution of Civil Works to be received on online mode as per the details below.

Sl. No.	Name of work	Value of work (₹ in Crore)	Period of Completion	Class of Contractor	Bid Security	Cost of document (in ₹)	Last date of Online receipt of bids
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1.	Construction of Electric Bus Depot at Naraj, Cuttack Odisha on Turnkey basis (Design & execution)	₹ 23.49	24 Calendar Months	Special & Super Class	1% of value of work	10,000.00 + 18% GST	09/11/2023 up to 5.30 P.M.
2.	Construction of Electric Bus Depot at Pokhariput, Bhubaneswar, Odisha on Turnkey basis (Design & execution)	₹ 20.36	24 Calendar Months	Special & Super Class	1% of value of work	10,000.00 + 18% GST	09/11/2023 up to 5.30 P.M.

1. The Bid documents will be available in the website **http://tendersodisha.gov.in** from **17/10/2023 to 5.30 P.M. of 09/11/2023.**
2. All Corrigendum and Addendum will be published in the Website only.
3. Other details can be seen in the bidding documents.

GM, Engineering on behalf of Managing Director, Capital Region Urban Transport (CRUT)
C-1625: — OIPR-13183/11/0017/2324

ELECTRONICS CORPORATION OF TAMILNADU LIMITED ELCOT
CHENNAI –600035. (ELCOT),

TENDER NOTICE

RFP for Selection of System Integrator (SI) for Data Centre Operations and Implementation of Private Cloud Platform for Tamil Nadu State Data Centre and Tamil Nadu Disaster Recovery Centre

Tender No.	ELCOT/IT Infra/TNSDC/OT/33760/2023
Earnest Money Deposit	Rs. 50,00,000/-(Rupees Fifty lakh only)
Tender Fee	Rs. 11,800/- Inclusive of GST
Tender download start date	18.10.2023 @ 11.00 AM
Pre-bid meeting	31.10.2023 @ 2.30 PM at ELCOT Office
Due date and time for submission of Tenders	20.11.2023 @ 03.00 PM
Tender opening Date & Time	20.11.2023 @ 04.00 PM

RFP document will be available for download from 18.10.2023 @ 11.00 am. Interested bidders may download the tender documents and BoQ from https://tntenders.gov.in

MANAGING DIRECTOR
ELECTRONICS CORPORATION OF TAMIL NADU LIMITED
692, II Floor, MHU Complex, Anna Salai,Nandanam,
DIPR/5604/TENDER/2023 — Chennai – 600035.e-mail : md@elcot.in Website URL : www.elcot.in

अखिल भारतीय आयुर्विज्ञान संस्थान, नागपुर
All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Nagpur
Plot No. 2, Sector - 20, MIHAN, Nagpur, Pin: 441108,
https://aiimsnagpur.edu.in

No. AIIMS/NGP/REC/Direct/Nonfaculty/2023/02 — Date: 14/10/2023

Applications are invited from eligible candidates for filling up various non-faculty posts on Direct Recruitment Basis at AIIMS Nagpur.

Sr. No.	Name of the Post	Group	Pay Scale	Upper Age Limit	No. of Vacancies
1.	Medical Physicist	A	Level-10	Between 21-35 years of age	02
2.	Clinical Psychologist	A	Level-10	Between 21-35 years of age	01
3.	Medical Officer (Ayush)	A	Level-10	Between 21-35 years of age	01
4.	Yoga Instructor	B	Level-07	Between 21-35 years of age	01
5.	Assistant Administrative Officer	B	Level-07	Between 21-30 years of age	02
6.	Executive Assistant (N.S)	B	Level -06	Between 21-30 years of age	04
7.	Store Keeper	B	Level -06	Between 18-35 years of age	04
8.	Junior Engineer (A/C &R)	B	Level -06	Age not exceeding 30 years	01
9.	Junior Engineer (Civil)	B	Level -06	Age not exceeding 30 years	01
10.	Junior Engineer (Electrical)	B	Level -06	Age not exceeding 30 years	01
11.	Junior Physiotherapist	B	Level-06	Between 21-30 years of age	01
12.	Jr. Audiologist/Speech Therapist	B	Level-06	Between 21-30 years of age	02
13.	Library and Information Assistant	B	Level-06	Between 21-30 years of age	01
14.	Optometrist	B	Level-06	Between 21-35 years of age	02
15.	Technician (Laboratory)	B	Level-06	Between 25-35 years of age	16
16.	Technician (Radiology)	B	Level-06	Between 21-35 years of age	02
17.	Pharmacist	C	Level-05	Between 21-27 years of age	05
18.	Fire Technician	C	Level-04	Between 18-27 years of age	02
19.	Medical Record Technicians	C	Level-04	Between 18-30 years of age	02
20.	Stenographer	C	Level-04	Between 18-27 Years	04
21.	Laundry Supervisor	C	Level-04	Between 18-30 Years	01
22.	Junior Warden	C	Level-02	Between 30-45 Years	02
23.	Jr. Administrative Assistant (LDC)	C	Level-02	Between 18-30 years of age	10
	Grand Total				**68**

1. The Crucial date for determining the age limit shall be the closing date for submission of online application.
2. The Candidates willing to apply for the above posts are advised to visit Institute Website https://aiimsnagpur.edu.in. The detailed advertisement along with Instructions and additional Information to candidates for recruitment by selection has been displayed on Institute Website https://aiimsnagpur.edu.in.

Sd/-
Deputy Director (Admin)
AIIMS, Nagpur

GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH
HIMACHAL PRADESH STATE ROADS TRANSFORMATION PROJECT (HPSRTP)
Request for Quotations (RFQ)

Name of Project: Himachal Pradesh State Roads Transformation Project (HPSRTP)
Loan No./Credit No. 9066-IN
Grant No: **Date: October 12, 2023**

The Director (Projects), H.P. State Roads Project, HPRIDCL, Nigam Vihar, Shimla-171002, Himachal Pradesh India invites the Request for Quotations from national suppliers for the Goods Procurement as detailed in the table below:-

Sr. No.	Description of the Goods Procurement	Date of availability of Request for Quotations on HPRIDCL web site	Last date/Time for submission of Proposals/ Opening of proposals
1.	Procurement of Accessories and Fabrication of Patrol Motorcycles to Support Annual Enforcement program of HP Police in Shimla and Nurpur Police Districts. **Ref No**: IN-HPRIDC - 385380-GO-RFQ	**October 14, 2023**	**November 04, 2023 at 15:00/ 15:30 hours (IST)**

Request for Quotations (RFQ) will be available on the official web site of HPRIDC under link http://himachalservices.nic.in/hpridc/HPSRTP.html .

Note: - Any further addendum/Corrigendum to this Request for Quotations Proposals Documents shall be available to all interesting firms on the same web site link. Proposal must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by post) by **November 04, 2023 at 15:00 hours (IST)**

Executive Director -cum-SE (P&D)
State Roads Project, HPRIDC
Nirman Bhawan, Shimla-171002

HP/ 0745/2023-2024

ODISHA MINING CORPORATION LIMITED
OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751001, Odisha
CIN: U13100OR1956SGC000313, www.omcltd.in

ADVERTISEMENT FOR RECRUITMENT OF EXECUTIVE IN OMC LTD.

No. 81/ OMC — **Date: 13.10.2023**

OMC, a Gold category and one of the largest State PSU in Mining Sector in the Country, undertakes exploration, mining and trading of iron, chrome, limestone & bauxite ores. Inspired by the vision to emerge as the market leader and to play a catalytic role in the growth of industrialization, OMC caters to the requirements of mineral based industries. The Corporation has achieved an annual turnover of Rs.14,449.57 crores in the FY 2022 -23.

The Corporation invites application from dynamic & competent professionals in the following post :

Vacancy

Sl. No.	Name of the Post	Scale of Pay (in Rs.)	Initial Basic Pay (in Rs.)	Total Post	Age as on 30.09.2023
1.	General Manager (Geology), E-7 Grade	1,27,100/- to 2,16, 300/- (Level-16)	1,38,800/- (Cell-4)	01 (UR)	Not above 55 years

Interested eligible candidates are advised to download the application format from OMC website : **https://omcltd.in>People>Career>Employment Opportunities** and submit the same duly filled in & signed along with attested copies of Certificates, Mark sheets, Experience Certificates etc. in support of their eligibility by **Speed Post/Courier** in a cover superscribed "APPLICATION FOR THE POST OF GENERAL MANAGER (GEOLOGY) " so as to reach the **General Manager (P&A),** Odisha Mining Corporation Ltd., OMC House, Bhubaneswar-751001 by **13.11.2023** positively. Applications received after the last date due to delay in **postal/courier** or any other reason shall not be entertained and will be rejected.

OMC Management reserves the right to cancel, amend or alter the above advertisement without assigning any reason thereof.

Sd/-
General Manager (P&A)
CAD-2467 : — OIPR-30005/11/0145/2324

INBRIEF

Passenger opens fire inside Sealdah-Rajdhani Express

A 41-year-old man allegedly opened fire inside the Sealdah-New Delhi Rajdhani Express over an argument with a coach attendant for a seat, a Railway official said on Friday. There was no report of any casualty. The accused, a retired Armyman, has been arrested following the incident that took place around 9.45 p.m. on Thursday inside the B-7 coach between Dhanbad and Gomoh stations under the Dhanbad division of East Central Railway (ECR), he said. "The man, identified as Harvinder Singh, is being interrogated. *Prima facie*, it appears that he was in an inebriated state when he opened fire," Senior Divisional Commercial Manager, Amresh Kumar said. PTI

ED attaches assets worth ₹59.44 crore in app fraud case

The Enforcement Directorate (ED) has attached assets worth ₹59.44 crore in connection with the Power Bank app fraud case allegedly involving Chinese nationals. The action has been taken under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act. The ED initiated its investigation on the basis of various cases registered by the police under various provisions of the Indian Penal Code and the Information Technology Act. According to ED, it found that some Chinese nationals, as part of a conspiracy, to cheat the Indian public, incorporated a number of shell companies in India with the help of Chartered Accountants/ and other Indian professionals.

School jobs scam: HC changes order on role of ED officer

The Calcutta High Court on Friday modified its earlier order where it had directed that Enforcement Directorate Assistant Director Mithilesh Mishra will not be investigating cases relating to West Bengal. Justice Amrita Sinha had on September 29 directed the ED director to relieve Mr. Mishra of the investigation in the school job scam and not to assign him to any case relating to West Bengal. The ED officer was present in the Court and Justice Sinha had expressed her displeasure over the way investigations had been carried out in the school job scam over the past 18 months.

Three dead, 10 missing after coal mine collapses in Bengal

At least three people were killed and 10 others were feared trapped after a coal mine collapsed during illegal extraction in West Bengal's Paschim Bardhaman district, officials said on Friday. Police suspect that the incident took place when coal was being illegally extracted from Narayankuri colliery of Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL) in Egra gram panchayat in Raniganj police station area, around 18 km from Asansol. "Around 25 to 30 people illegally entered the mine on Wednesday afternoon. The mine caved in an hour later. While some managed to come out of it, others got trapped inside," the officer said. PTI

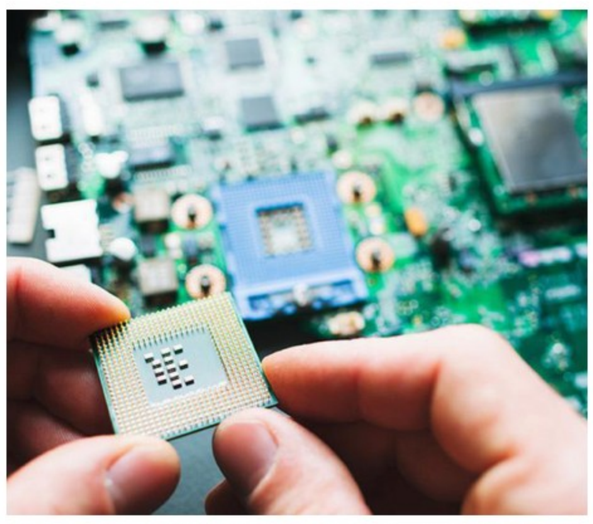
Govt. mulls partnerships to make semiconductor chips

Six working groups formed to advise Centre on roadmap for artificial intelligence have submitted report, says Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Six working groups, which had been formed to mull the Indian government's artificial intelligence (AI) roadmap, have submitted the first edition of their report, Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology Rajeev Chandrasekhar said, adding that the report's recommendations included public-private partnerships to make semiconductors for AI applications.

In addition to this, the PPP model would be leveraged to build so-called "GPU clusters", masses of resource-intensive graphics processors that are used by AI applications. These clusters would be made available to Indian start-ups and researchers, Mr. Chandrasekhar said. The text of the report was not immediately published online.



This model would be leveraged to build clusters, resource-intensive graphics processors used by AI applications. GETTY IMAGES

Diverse collections

Mr. Chandrasekhar said use cases for AI that the India AI initiative would look at spanned "agriculture, healthcare, education, fintech, security, and governance".

Mr. Chandrasekhar touted the India Dataset Platform, a planned "collection which will be among the largest and most diverse collections of anonymised datasets for Indian researchers and startups to train their multi-parameter models". The Minister was referring to learning models that AI technology is 'trained' on, or programmed to learn from.

Robotics strategy

Mr. Chandrasekhar also spoke on the draft National Strategy on Robotics, which was circulated for public input in September. "In this new world, for competitiveness, cost-efficiency and computer vision, these are important in manufacturing," Mr. Chandrasekhar said.

"While robotics is a multidisciplinary technology that has the potential to transform and disrupt a wide range of sectors and industries, its adoption to date has been primarily driven by economic motivations," the draft strategy says, arguing that robotics technologies used in manufacturing and other areas could have a significant impact by "reaping the benefits of deploying robotics at scale".

The draft strategy recommends fiscal interventions to facilitate local manufacturing of robotics hardware, building of 'demonstration facilities' to test and show off technologies, and building capacity in the robotics sector.

Mr. Chandrasekhar said that job losses due to manufacturing automation was an erroneous way of looking at robotics, arguing that quality assessment through computer vision, and efficiency were among the benefits of robotics in the sector.

New e-commerce site to showcase 'energy efficient' appliances

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Vishal Kapoor

In an effort to encourage the adoption of energy efficient appliances, Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a joint venture of public sector undertakings (PSU) under the Ministry of Power, will set up an e-commerce portal that will exclusively feature electric appliances with the highest efficiency ratings.

The objective of this exercise would be to "create demand" and encourage consumers to opt for electric cookers, fans, refrigerators and other devices that were rated "five star and above", Vishal Kapoor, CEO, EESL said at a conference on Friday.

"A major challenge is in getting the message out to people of the importance of opting for energy efficiency appliances. The additional costs involved in more energy-efficient lamps can be recovered in two-three years. So we need greater awareness on the need for efficiency," he said at a meeting organised by NRDC India Private Limited, a Delhi-based think tank, The Energy and Resources Institute and Climate Trends, a research-based consultancy on environment and climate.

The portal would initially be for businesses to trade among themselves and later be expanded to wider, retail sales, Mr. Kapoor told *The Hindu*. The EESL is affiliated to the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) that has for years run a 'star-rating' system for electric appliances with the highest-rated appliances having '5 stars'. The BEE has made this rating mandatory for 15 appliances and voluntary for 20 appliances for 2023.

Improving energy efficiency is a key plank of India's energy-security strategy. The BEE claims that its rating system, over the years, has prevented 300 million tonnes of CO_2.

CAG terms media reports on transfer of officials 'baseless'

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Referred audit reports went through multiple hands before due approval, says the statement

The Office of the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India on Friday dismissed media reports on the transfer of its officials, saying that they were baseless and incorrect.

Taking note of the news reports about the transfer of CAG officials who had "exposed corruption" in the Ayushman Bharat scheme and the Dwarka Expressway project, the Congress had on Wednesday accused the Union government of intimidating the officials, and had demanded their reinstatement.

Administrative reasons

In a statement, the CAG's office said: "To set the record straight, matters of transfer and postings are a matter of administrative convenience and to read ulterior motives into these is highly presumptuous."

"Audit reports are prepared by an extensive team over a prolonged period, comprising officers entrusted with field work, central processing and finalisation at the highest level," it explained.

"The referred audit reports also went through multiple hands before due approval, and subsequent tabling in the Legislature; and hence cannot be attributed to any one officer. Furthermore, both referred reports have been presented to the President after approval at the highest level, and laid before the Parliament, and are in the public domain. To attribute any malfeasance to these routine transfers driven by administrative requirements, is completely incorrect," it added.

Rate of flight cancellations due to fog on the decline

Jagriti Chandra
NEW DELHI

The rate of flight cancellations due to fog has halved with only 86 flights cancelled last financial year, according to the Ministry of Civil Aviation which held a fog preparedness meeting on Friday ahead of the winter season.

Total flight cancellations dropped from 124 flights out of 1.36 lakh total aircraft movements in 2021-2022 resulting in a 0.09% rate of cancellations to 86 cancellations for 1.66 lakh in 2022-2023 leading to a 0.05% rate of cancellations, the Ministry said in a press statement. Flight diversions also dropped from 58 from eight fog-prone airports in 2021-2022 to 14 in 2022-2023, the statement added.

A total 4,804 pilots trained to perform CAT II and CAT III landings in low-visibility conditions, including 2,979 Captains and 1,825 co-pilots.

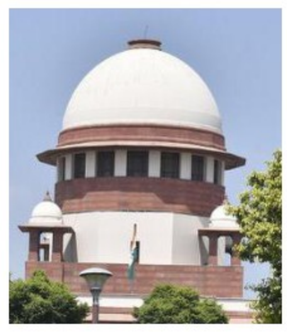
SC imposes ₹5 lakh fine for 'frivolous' PIL; dismisses plea on evolution theory

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Friday ordered a PIL petitioner to deposit ₹5 lakh as costs for his "frivolous" plea that said the Bombay High Court Chief Justice did not say 'I' while taking his oath of office.

A Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud said the petitioner, advocate Ashok Pandey, has no doubt that the person who took the oath was indeed Justice D.K. Upadhyaya, the current Chief Justice of Bombay High Court. Again, there is no quarrel about the fact that it was the Maharashtra Governor who administered the oath to Justice Upadhyaya, the Bench added.

"This is only a frivolous attempt to use the PIL jurisdiction to propagate some publicity for the petitioner... We accordingly dismiss the petition with costs of ₹5,00,000," Chief Justice Chandrachud ordered.



If Mr. Pandey does not pay up, the court ordered the Lucknow District Collector to collect the amount as arrears of land revenue from him.

'Darwin and Einstein'

In the court next door, a Bench headed by Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul was battling another "frivolous" PIL filed by a man who believed that both Charles Darwin and Albert Einstein were wrong in their conclusions.

The petitioner, Raj Kumar, said Mr. Darwin was wrong about the theory of evolution and Mr. Einstein erred in deducing that $E=MC^2$. Justice Kaul advised the petitioner to either re-educate himself or match up to Mr. Darwin and Mr. Einstein with his own theories. The day also saw Justice Kaul dismiss another petitioner's attempt to coax the court to frame a "national traffic management policy".

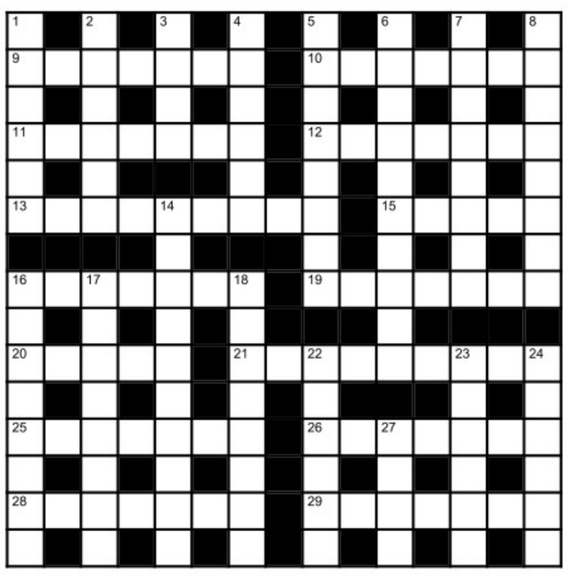
"We are clearly of the view that such frivolous PILs occupy the time and attention of the Court thereby deflecting the attention of the Court from more serious matters and consuming the infrastructure of the judicial manpower and Registry of the Court. Time has come when the Court should impose exemplary costs in such frivolous PILs," Chief Justice Chandrachud observed in the court in Mr. Pandey's case.

TH CROSSWORD + 13995

(set by Afterdark)

To solve this puzzle online, get across to our crossword site. @ *https://qrgo.page.link/jjpTn*

SCAN TO PLAY



Across

9 Vessel is kept wrong way up in cover following instructions basically (7)
10 Bar stocking some rum portion (7)
11 Disturbances in old city after female destroys rose (7)
12 General devastated by blow up (7)
13 Tries internally, from the heart in practice (9)
15 Crude people try taking the short recourses at the end (5)
16 Fibre strands kept in loops outside old cover essentially (7)
19 Obsolete record for the most part at America's erased, emptied (7)
20 Plant sap secured from hollow tree in general (5)
21 Vocalists in a whirl snort some ganja, ecstasy on board (9)
25 Author told 'Finish off story without reading' (7)
26 Approaches girl to replace union leader and gets even with (7)
28 Issue coming back at head office with directions to absentees (2-5)
29 Permit insurers to collect no charge after preliminary examination online (7)

Down

1 File destroyed in Puerto Rico by snitch (6)
2 Explore Bay of Bengal perhaps, right with two leaders from Chennai (6)
3 Unit to primarily record resistance (4)
4 So, tips getting damaged leads to drooping of eyelids (6)
5 Cot is placed across improper level and slanted (8)
6 Say, greens have E.Coli mostly, sis got affected (10)
7 Issues with expert's rank (second) (8)
8 Emphasised lock to be kept in empty safe by guard at the end (8)
14 Princess's tax return is primarily zero. Normal to take over? (10)
16 Reporting about story in organization (8)
17 Doctrine of relativism rewritten, about to be released (8)
18 Sister is shy, silly and cowardly (8)
22 Almost new and advanced (6)
23 Brussels has company at northeast - a US city (6)
24 British special regiment saves woman from belts (6)
27 Every electronic account's hacked primarily (4)

SUDOKU

	1							5
	6	5	3					
7	4			5			9	
			9			2	5	
3			1		7			8
	2	7			6			
	7			3			6	4
					5	3	7	
6							8	

No.SS5948 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

Solution to previous puzzle

P	A	P	E	R	S		I	N	S	E	C	U	R	E
	G		P		T		N		U		A		E	
W	A	R	I	N	E	S	S		C	O	R	B	E	L
	R		C		A		T		K		A		L	
			U	N	D	E	R	C	L	O	T	H	E	S
	D		R		Y		U		I				C	
H	E	R	E				M	A	N	X	C	A	T	S
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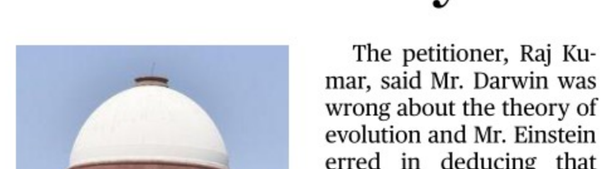
D	O	W	N	T	O	W	N				R	A	N	G
	U				M		T		S		N		G	
C	R	O	S	S	E	X	A	M	I	N	E			
	C		I		F		L		T		L		W	
W	A	R	D	E	R		I	N	I	M	I	C	A	L
	K		L		E		S		N		A		N	
V	E	H	E	M	E	N	T		S	U	N	D	E	R

Solution to yesterday's Sudoku

5	4	3	9	6	2	1	8	7
1	9	8	7	5	3	6	2	4
6	2	7	4	8	1	9	5	3
7	6	4	1	2	5	8	3	9
8	1	9	3	7	4	2	6	5
2	3	5	8	9	6	7	4	1
4	8	1	2	3	9	5	7	6
9	7	6	5	4	8	3	1	2
3	5	2	6	1	7	4	9	8



FAITH

Navaratri chanting

Celebration of festivals is a part of our spiritual culture. Navaratri is one such important festival. The Goddess Herself speaks of this to Markandeya, making it doubly spiritual in nature. Although there are Navaratris occurring in many months, such as in the Vasanta season, the Navaratri falling in the month of Purattasi is highly sacrosanct, Tiruvidaimarudhur Brahmasri Niddhiswaran Shrowthigal said in a discourse.

If we pray to Ambal during this period, there is no doubt that our hardships will be alleviated. On nine days, we pray to the Nava Durgas, the nine different phenomenons of Ambal. Saraswati Puja in particular is also observed as the day of Ayudha Puja.

Navaratri finds mention in Durga Saptashati in the Markandeya Puranam, which says Suraghan, a king, and Vaishya Samadhi, a man of commerce, created a form of Ambal from clay and prayed to Her.

How do you conduct the puja? Many households follow the tradition of putting up a display of dolls known as kolu to this day. Holding centre stage is the kalasam with Ambal presiding over it. Although there are many ways of celebrating a festival, the chanting of slokas is the most beneficial during Navarati. It's also the easiest form of worship since we can chant a prayer regardless of where we are.

RAMALLAH

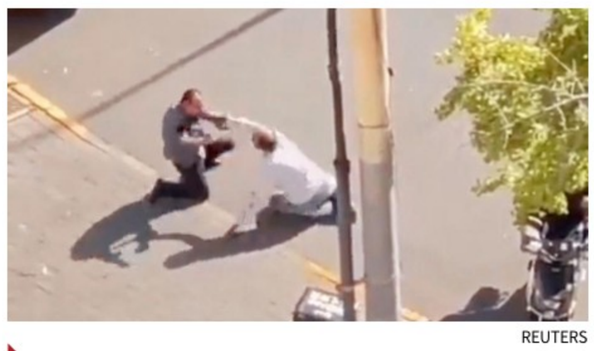
Palestinian leader Abbas warns of 'second Nakba' catastrophe in Gaza

AFP

Palestinian President Mahmud Abbas (right, in the photo) on Friday warned against a "second Nakba" catastrophe facing Palestinians after the Israeli Army ordered more than one million people to evacuate north Gaza. The Nakba, or "catastrophe", refers to some 760,000 Palestinians who fled their homes during the 1948 war. AFP

BEIJING

Israeli embassy employee attacked in Beijing; motive being probed



REUTERS

An Israeli embassy worker in Beijing was attacked on Friday, Israel's Foreign Ministry said. A geolocated video showed the man was stabbed with a knife on a street in the Chinese capital. "The employee is being treated at hospital and is in stable condition. The motive for the assault is being looked into," the statement said. AFP

BEIRUT

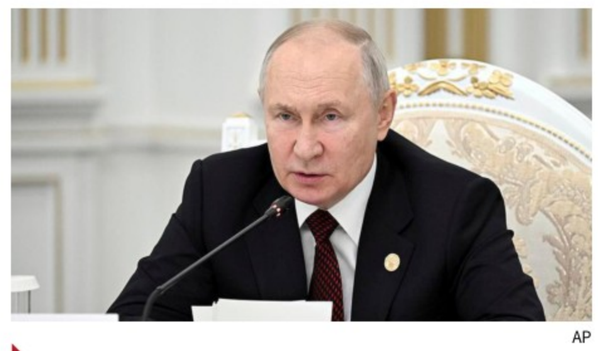
'Prepared' for action against Israel when time comes, says Hezbollah

AFP

Lebanon's Iran-backed Hezbollah movement on Friday said it would be "fully prepared" to join its ally Hamas in the war against Israel when the time is right. Hezbollah deputy chief Naim Qassem spoke as Hamas and Israel traded heavy fire for a seventh day, after hundreds of Hamas gunmen stormed across the border. AFP

MOSCOW

Gaza ground operation would lead to 'unacceptable' civilian toll: Putin



AP

Russian President Vladimir Putin said on Friday that an expected Israel ground offensive in the Hamas-controlled Gaza Strip would lead to "unacceptable" civilian casualties. "The use of heavy machinery in residential areas is a complex matter fraught with grave consequences," Mr. Putin said in televised remarks. AFP

Hamas asks Gazans to stay in homes, ignore Israel's 'psychological warfare'

UN. says Israel's order for Palestinians in northern Gaza to move towards south would affect 1.1 million people; if carried out, that would mean the territory's entire population being crammed into roughly the southern half, which is only 40 km long

Associated Press
JERUSALEM

Air alert: Pamphlets dropped by the Israeli military, asking people to evacuate, raining down on Gaza City on Friday. AFP

Hamas, the Islamist militant group that carried out the shocking attack on Israel on October 7 killing at least 1,300 people, asked Palestinians in Gaza to stay in their homes, after Israel asked over a million people living in northern Gaza to move towards south.

Israel "is trying to create confusion among the population", said Hamas.

According to the U.N., Israel's order would affect 1.1 million people. If carried out, that would mean the territory's entire population cramming into roughly the southern half of the strip, which is only 40 km long, even as Israeli strikes continued on Friday to hammer neighbourhoods across southern Gaza.

Israel said it needed to target Hamas' military infrastructure, much of which is buried deep underground. Another spokesperson, Jonathan Conricus, said the military would take "extensive efforts to avoid harming civilians" and that residents would be allowed to return when the war is over.

"The camouflage of the terrorists is the civil population," Israeli Defence Minister Yoav Gallant said at a news conference with U.S. Defence Secretary Lloyd Austin. "Therefore, we need to separate them. So those who want to save their life, please go south."

But UN spokesperson Stephane Dujarric said it would be impossible to stage such an evacuation without "devastating humanitarian consequences". He called on Israel to rescind any such orders, saying they could "transform what is already a tragedy into a calamitous situation".

Many Palestinians in Gaza still struggled with indecision, not knowing whether to leave or stay. Gaza City resident Khaled Abu Sultan at first didn't believe the evacuation order was real, and now isn't sure whether to evacuate his family to the south. "We don't know if there are safe areas there," he said. "We don't know anything."

Another family contacted friends and relatives in southern Gaza seeking shelter, but then changed their minds. Many expressed concern they would not be able to return or be gradually displaced to Egypt's Sinai Peninsula.

Protests across West Asia supporting Palestinians

Agence France-Presse
BAGHDAD

Massive outrage: Protesters during an anti-Israel demonstration at Tahrir Square in Baghdad on Friday. AFP

Thousands of protesters poured onto the streets of several West Asian capitals on Friday in support of Palestinians amid Israeli air strikes on Gaza in reprisal for a surprise Hamas attack.

"No to the occupation! No to America!" chanted demonstrators gathered in central Baghdad after Shia leader Moqtada Sadr called for a protest "in support of Gaza" and against Israel.

In the capital Tehran, demonstrators waved Iranian, Palestinian, and Lebanese Hezbollah flags. Similar gatherings took place in other cities across Iran, where American and Israeli flags were burned.

Iran, a country with a predominantly Shia Muslim but non-Arab population, financially and militarily supports Hamas. Israel is their mutual sworn enemy.

In Jordan, which has long had a peace treaty with neighbouring Israel, more than 10,000 people gathered in central Amman, near the Grand Husseini Mosque, after a call for protests from the Jordanian Muslim Brotherhood, and several leftist and youth groups.

In Bahrain, hundreds of worshippers chanted "Death to Israel!" and "Death to America!" ahead of Friday prayers.

In Lebanon, supporters of Iran-backed Hezbollah rallied in the southern suburbs of Beirut in support of the Palestinians.

Biden awards $7 bn for clean energy hubs

Associated Press
WASHINGTON

The seven hubs will spur over $40 bn in investment, create thousands of jobs, says White House

Clean-energy projects in seven states from Pennsylvania to California have been selected by the Biden administration for a $7 billion program to kickstart development and production of hydrogen fuel, a key component of President Joe Biden's agenda to slow climate change.

His goal is to establish seven regional hydrogen hubs to help replace fossil fuels such as coal and oil with cleaner-burning hydrogen as an energy source for vehicles, manufacturing and generating electricity. Mr. Biden is expected to make the official announcement during an economic-themed visit to Philadelphia on Friday.

The White House calls clean hydrogen "essential to achieving the President's vision of a strong clean energy economy" and net-zero greenhouse gas emissions in the U.S. by 2050.

The seven hubs selected by the administration will spur more than $40 billion in private investment and create tens of thousands of good-paying jobs, the White House said, including many high-paying union jobs.

Journalist killed on Lebanon border

Associated Press
ALMA AL-SHAAB

An Israeli shell landed in a gathering of international journalists covering clashes on the border in south Lebanon, killing a *Reuters* videographer and leaving six other journalists injured.

A photographer at the scene saw the body of *Reuters* videographer Issam Abdallah and the six who were wounded, some of whom were rushed to hospitals in ambulances. Images from the scene showed a charred car.

"We are deeply saddened to tell you that our videographer, Issam Abdallah, has been killed," the *Reuters* news agency said in a statement. The agency added that Abdallah was part of a *Reuters* crew in southern Lebanon that was providing a live signal.

Reuters said that two of its journalists, Thaer Al-Sudani and Maher Nazeh, were wounded in the shelling in the border area.

Qatar's *Al-Jazeera TV*, said two of its employees, Elie Brakhya and reporter Carmen Joukhadar, also were among the wounded.

The shelling occurred during an exchange of fire along the Lebanon-Israel border between Israeli troops and members of Lebanon's militant Hezbollah group. The Lebanon-Israel border has been witnessing sporadic acts of violence since Saturday's attack by the Hamas.

Teacher stabbed to death, 3 injured in France knife attack; several in custody

Agence France-Presse
ARRAS

Emmanuel Macron, with other French Ministers, talking to the press after a visit to the Gambetta high school in Arras on Friday. AFP

A man of Chechen origin stabbed to death a teacher and severely wounded three other adults on Friday at a school in northeastern France, with President Emmanuel Macron denoucing an act of "Islamist terror". Prosecutor says several people are in custody over the stabbing incident.

The attack in the town of Arras comes with Franceon high alert for security risks following the Hamas attack on Israel.

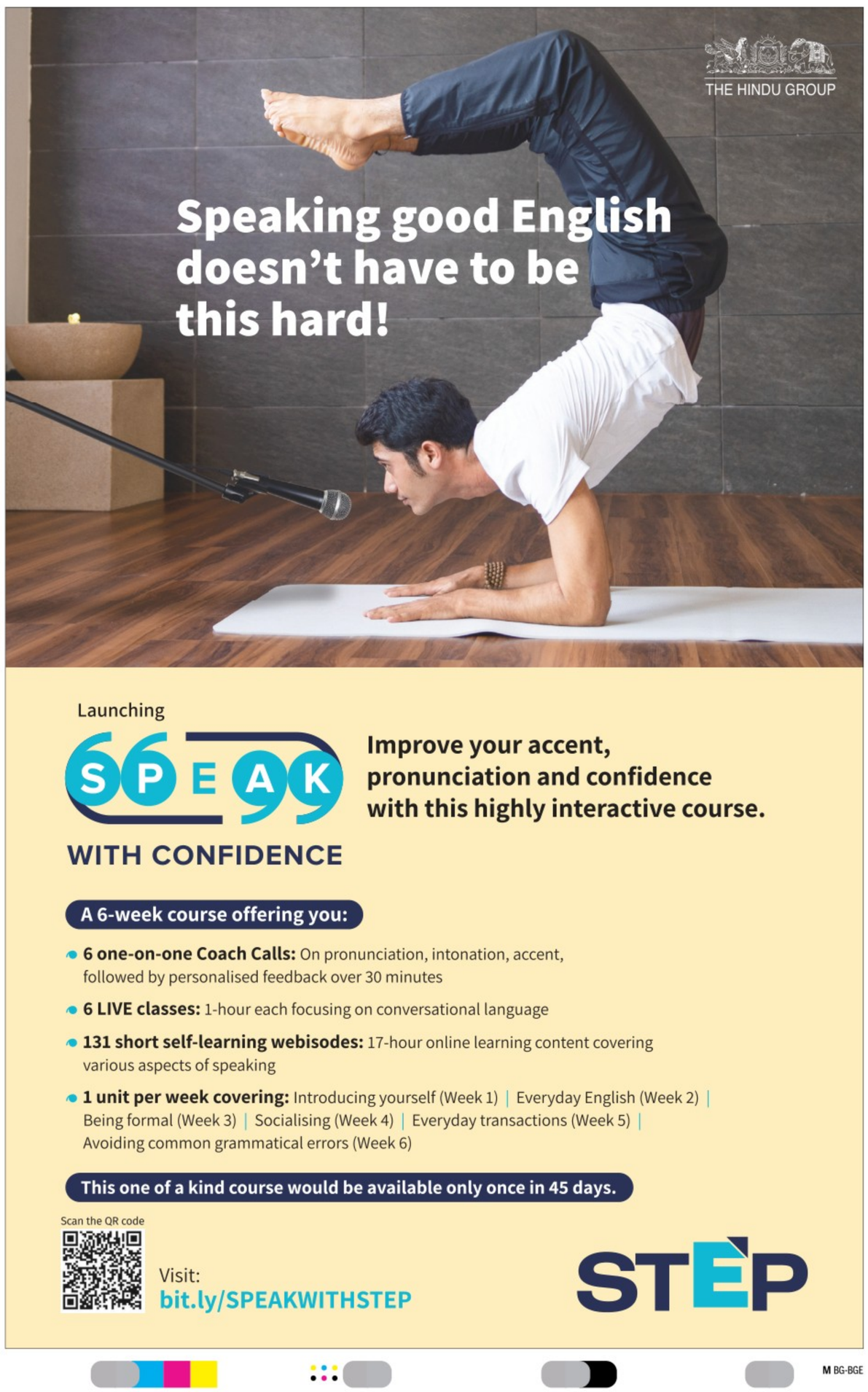
The attacker, 20, who has not been named, was from Russia's mainly Muslim southern Caucasus region of Chechnya and was already on a French national register known as "Fiche S." as a potential security threat, a police source said.

The perpetrator cried the Arabic phrase *Allahu akbar!* (God is greatest!), according to the preliminary elements of the investigation, a second police source added. Among those wounded were a school security agent who was stabbed multiple times and fighting for his life and a teacher who is in a less serious condition, the source added. No pupil at the school was hurt, said another police source.

The attack comes almost three years to the day after the October 16, 2020 beheading of teacher Samuel Paty, also by a Chechen, in a Paris suburb.

The suspect in Friday's violence has been detained by police and several others are also in custody, Interior Minister Gerald Darmanin wrote on X, formerly Twitter.

President Emmanuel Macron said in an address to the nation that 582 religious and cultural facilities in France were receiving stepped-up police protection after the attack by Hamas on Israel. Later on Friday. France raised its security alert to the highest level following the attack.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INBRIEF

Dr. Reddy's biologics unit gets 9 U.S. FDA observations

Dr. Reddy's Laboratories has been issued a Form 483 with nine observations after a product specific pre-approval inspection of its biologics manufacturing facility in Bachupally, Hyderabad, by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. The inspection was conducted in the period October 4-12. Form 483 is issued to notify the company's management of the objectionable conditions that may constitute violations of the Food Drug and Cosmetic Act and related Acts.

Zydus recalls 7,248 bottles of Oxybutynin Chloride in U.S.

A unit of Zydus Lifesciences is recalling 7,248 bottles of Oxybutynin Chloride tablets in the U.S. due to manufacturing issues, the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) said. The drug is used to treat overactive bladder and urinary conditions. Zydus Pharmaceuticals (USA) Inc. is recalling the affected lot due to 'failed dissolution specifications', the U.S. FDA stated. The lot was produced at Ahmedabad and distributed in the U.S. by Zydus, the U.S. health regulator said. PTI

Tata Motors to sell 9.9% stake in Tata Tech for ₹1,613.7 crore

Tata Motors Ltd. (TML) said it had entered into share purchase agreements to sell 9.9% stake in Tata Technologies Ltd. (TTL) for an aggregate consideration of ₹1,613.7 crore. "TPG Rise Climate is the lead investor for this transaction, which ascribes an equity valuation of ₹16,300 crore ($2.0 billion) for TTL." Tata Motors said in a statement. "This transaction furthers TML's deleveraging agenda and is expected to close in the next two weeks," TML said.

'West Asia conflict will not affect IMEC'

However, crisis has revived fears on fuel prices, food security and supply chain disruptions, the FM said, after G20 FMs meet in Marrakech

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

G20 parleys: FM Nirmala Sitharaman with ECB President Christine Lagarde and RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das on Friday. ANI

The conflict in Israel and Palestine will not dampen plans for the India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC), Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman signalled on Friday, noting that the strife didn't figure significantly in parleys held with G20 FMs in Marrakech, Morocco.

However, violence has brought concerns about fuel and food security to the fore again, Ms. Sitharaman said in a briefing after the last meeting under India's presidency of the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors (FMCBG) held in Marrakech on October 12 and 13.

While "higher for longer" interest rates can impact investment flows in emerging markets, Ms. Sitharaman said these economies are the growth engines of the world and so investment flows should not be influenced by high interest rates alone.

Default risk in banks' unsecured retail loans rising: UBS

Reuters
BENGALURU

The risk of Indian banks' unsecured retail loans turning sour is rising as lending to borrowers with overdue debt has increased, UBS said in a note.

In recent months, lenders in Asia's third-largest economy have boosted their unsecured lending portfolios as the pandemic-induced stress on household finances has eased.

Last week, the country's central bank said it was closely monitoring the segment for signs of nascent stress.

UBS has turned "neutral" on the banking sector and sees a higher probability of regulatory tightening on unsecured loans.

"The share of loans to borrowers with weaker risk profiles has risen along with an increase in retail borrowers' leverage," UBS said on Oct. 12, citing a study it conducted.

Banks' outstanding receipts from credit cards rose to ₹2.18 trillion ($26.19 billion) as of August 25, from ₹1.68 trillion a year earlier, central bank data showed. Outstanding personal loans rose 26%.

The share of lending to borrowers with overdue loans rose to 23% in FY23 from 12% in fiscal FY19, UBS said. The number of borrowers with multiple retail loans rose to 9.3% in FY23 from 3.9% in FY18.

MARKETS

MARKET WATCH

	FRIDAY	% CHANGE
Sensex	66,283	-0.19
US Dollar	83.30	-0.07
Gold	59,050	0.00
Brent oil	89.64	4.08

NIFTY 50

	PRICE	CHANGE
Adani Enter	2454.55	-51.80
Adani Ports	813.75	-1.20
Apollo Hosp	5017.30	23.45
Asian Paints	3148.80	-10.30
Axis Bank	994.05	-24.40
Bajaj Auto	5052.40	-54.20
Bajaj Finserv	1646.55	11.75
Bajaj Finance	8051.65	37.35
Bharti Airtel	954.20	3.85
BPCL	347.70	-1.00
Britannia Ind	4574.70	13.95
Cipla	1167.75	9.85
Coal India	307.95	0.75
Divis Lab	3735.35	-19.90
Dr Reddys Lab	5460.20	-70.00
Eicher Motors	3476.40	-17.80
Grasim Ind	1982.60	-19.20
HCL Tech	1255.90	32.15
HDFC Bank	1535.75	-14.10
HDFC Life	625.25	0.60
Hero MotoCorp	3098.45	10.20
Hindalco	480.60	-3.80
Hind Unilever	2569.45	12.45
ICICI Bank	951.30	-2.95
IndusInd Bank	1463.70	39.45
Infosys	1431.15	-34.35
ITC	448.35	-2.35
JSW Steel	777.25	-6.20
Kotak Bank	1762.00	-1.85
L&T	3089.60	7.85
LTIMindtree Ltd.	5095.15	-59.60
M&M	1562.45	-4.20
Maruti Suzuki	10727.55	146.65
NestleIndia	23554.35	479.20
NTPC	242.05	0.45
ONGC	184.90	0.45
PowerGrid Corp	201.80	1.05
Reliance Ind	2349.30	-0.10
SBI Life	1316.45	2.80
State Bank	576.15	-9.90
Sun Pharma	1145.30	14.90
TataConsumerProduct	913.35	21.00
Tata Motors	667.10	30.15
Tata Steel	125.05	-0.85
TCS	3570.85	28.30
Tech Mahindra	1194.10	-4.65
Titan	3283.75	-1.25
UltraTech Cement	8369.00	17.25
UPL	623.05	2.45
Wipro	411.05	-6.05

EXCHANGE RATES

Indicative direct rates in rupees a unit except yen at 4 p.m. on October 13

CURRENCY	TT BUY	TT SELL
US Dollar	83.06	83.38
Euro	87.40	87.74
British Pound	101.15	101.55
Japanese Yen (100)	55.52	55.74
Chinese Yuan	11.37	11.41
Swiss Franc	91.49	91.86
Singapore Dollar	60.65	60.89
Canadian Dollar	60.68	60.94
Malaysian Ringitt	17.57	17.65
Australian Dollar	52.38	52.59

Source:Indian Bank

Adani shares slide after media report

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Shares of Adani Group firms on Friday came under selling pressure and closed with losses, with Adani Enterprises Ltd. tanking more than 2% to ₹2,454.65 apiece a day after *Financial Times* reported that the Gautam Adani-led group was allegedly over-pricing imported coal to enrich itself and to make electricity consumers in India pay higher prices.

Reacting to the news, Adani Port & SEZ dipped 0.1% on the BSE; Adani Power was down 1.56%; Adani Energy Solutions dropped 1.05%; Adani Green Energy slid 0.08%; Adani Total Gas and Adani Wilmar were both down 1.2% each, while NDTV declined 0.14%.

The Adani Group, in a statement issued ahead of publication of the report, had rejected the allegations as baseless. The *Financial Times* said the group appeared to have "imported billions of dollars of coal at prices well above market value".

'Govt. will not restrict but only monitor the import of laptops'

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India will not impose the licensing requirement on imports of laptops and computers but will only monitor their inbound shipments, a top government official said.

The remarks assume significance as the government in August announced that these products, including laptops, tablets and computers, would be put under a licensing regime from November 1.

Sunil Barthwal

"On laptops, we are of the view that there are no restrictions as such," Commerce Secretary Sunil Barthwal told reporters here. "We are only saying that somebody who is importing these laptops, have to be under close watch, so that we can look at these imports," he added.

"It is basically monitoring, which we are doing. It has nothing to do with restrictions as such," Mr. Barthwal clarified.

The government in August imposed import restrictions on laptops, computers (including tablet computers), micro computers, large or mainframe computers, and certain data processing machines with a view to boost domestic manufacturing and cut imports from countries like China.

ImmunoACT's cell therapy to treat blood cancer gets CDSCO nod

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

IIT Bombay-incubated Immunoadoptive Cell Therapy (ImmunoACT), in which drugmaker Laurus Labs holds about 34% stake, has received Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation's (CDSCO) marketing authorisation approval of the 'first' humanised CD19-targeted Chimeric Antigen Receptor T cell (CAR-T cell) therapy product for relapsed/refractory B-cell lymphomas and leukaemia (blood cancer) in India.

ImmunoACT said it intends to make NexCAR19 (Actalycabtagene autoleucel), the CAR-T cell therapy, available to its partner hospitals as soon as possible. The indigenously-developed product will put the country on the world map of advanced cell and gene therapies, the company said.

'The locally-developed product will put the country on the world map of advanced cell and gene therapies'

Laurus Labs has been an early backer of ImmunoACT and invested more than $18 million to support its efforts to scale up R&D as well as commercialisation efforts.

NexCAR19 is the result of a collaborative effort over a decade between IIT Bombay and Tata Memorial Centre. Designed and developed at IIT Bombay, NexCAR19 underwent integrative process development and manufacturing under cGMP at ImmunoACT. "We are proud to be part of this cell therapy product for blood cancer treatment," Laurus founder-CEO Satyanarayana Chava said.

IOC gets board nod to invest ₹1,660 crore in NTPC Green JV

The Hindu Bureau
HYDERABAD

Indian Oil Corporation's (IOC) board approved equity contribution of up to ₹1,660.15 crore by the state-owned refiner, towards a 50% stake in joint venture (JV) company IndianOil NTPC Green Energy.

The board of IOC also accorded its approval to the investment plan of the JV for setting up of renewable energy power plants, Indian Oil said in a filing with the exchanges.

Set up in June, the joint venture with power producer NTPC's wholly owned subsidiary NTPC Green Energy will develop renewable energy-based power projects such as solar PV and wind to meet round-the-clock power requirements of new projects being undertaken by Indian Oil Corporation's refineries.

Palm oil imports rose 29% in Nov.-Sept., says SEA

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

India's palm oil imports jumped 29.2% to 90.8 lakh tonnes in the first 11 months of the ongoing 2022-23 oil year compared with the year-earlier period, with RBD Palmolein shipments rising fast, posing a serious threat to domestic refiners, industry body SEA said on Friday.

Meanwhile, India's total vegetable oil imports rose 20% to 156.73 lakh tonnes during the November-September period of the 2022-23 oil year, from 130.13 lakh tonnes in the year-earlier period.

In September, however, the country's vegetable-oil imports witnessed a 5% decline, dropping to 15.52 lakh tonnes from 16.32 lakh tonnes in the same period the previous year. "During November 2022 [to] September 2023, the import of palm products increased sharply due to price parity, the Mumbai-based Solvent Extractors Association of India (SEA) said.

"The share of palm oil increased to 59%," the association added.

'September sales portend better real estate demand during festive season'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

With Mumbai's real estate witnessing a surge in sales and bookings, real estate developers and property advisers expect far better sales during the upcoming festive season.

In September, the Mumbai realty market reported bookings of more than 10,602 residential units, according to data collected by Palladian Partners, up 32% from the same period a year earlier. Stamp duty revenue also reportedly surged 53% year-on-year making it possibly a lucrative realty market, analysts said.

"The success of September, 2023 has set the stage for a promising festive season in Mumbai," said Chandresh Vithalani, director, Palladian Partners LLP, a property advisory firm.

"The festive season traditionally witnesses a spike in property purchases, and this year's enthusiasm is expected to be higher than ever," he added.

Anuj Puri, chairman, Anarock Group, said the Bengaluru residential market continued its growth stint in Q3 2023, despite the usually slow monsoon quarter. "Latest Anarock Research data shows that Q3 2023 saw housing sales of almost 16,400 units in the third quarter against 12,690 units sold in Q3 2022. This denotes a staggering 29% annual sales growth," he said.

"Interestingly, after NCR, Bengaluru stood second among the top 7 cities in reducing its overall unsold stock in a year. As at Q3 2023-end, the unsold inventory in Bengaluru stood at 49,350 units, which is over 16% less than the corresponding period in 2022," he added.

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Email : materials@malabarcements.com/ bulkmcl@malabarcements.com

TENDER NOTICE

Visit www.etenders.kerala.gov.in for Online Submission of Bids for : ▸ Loading of packed cements into Railway wagon. ▸ In-situ Grinding and Skew thrust correction of Kiln support rollers. ▸ Renewal of points and crossing (No.102 and 103) with PSC layout at MCL Railway siding at Walayar. ▸ Collection and Transportation of Chemical Gypsum from FACT, Ambalamedu, Udyogamandal to Malabar Cements Ltd, CGU at Pallipuram, Cherthala, Alappuzha Dist. ▸ Supply of Track Shoe Assy. 125 CT 00286. ▸ Supply of Grinding Media Balls. ▸ Supply of Pinion Bearing for Cement Mill, Malabar Cements Ltd, Cherthala Plant, Alappuzha. ▸ Disposal of used Kiln Shell 20 MT and MS/CS/GI Scrap. ▸ Disposal of Obsolete and Non-Operational Equipments / items. ▸ Disposal of Miscellaneous scrap items. www.mstcecommerce.com. ▸ Disposal of Used Tractor and Honda City Car. www.malabarcements.co.in

Sd/- Managing Director

GOVERNMENT OF TAMIL NADU
TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT

For and on behalf of Governor of Tamil Nadu Quotations are invited for the Procurement of Equipments under Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Conservation and Greening Project Climate Change Response by Wildlife Division, Chennai during 2023-24.

1. Name of the Work: **Supply, Installation and Commissioning of various equipments under Tamil Nadu Biodiversity Conservation and Greening Project Climate Change Response.**
2. EMD: **Rs.6,40,700/-(Rupees six lakhs forty thousand and seven hundred only)** (In the form of DD in favour of the Wildlife Warden, Chennai payable at Chennai)
3. Other details can be downloaded Tender documents are available in **website https://tntenders.gov.in** from **16.10.2023 to 30.10.2023 upto 12.00 PM.**
4. Due date, time and place for submission of tender and Opening of Tender : **30.10.2023 upto 3.00 PM** at the address of the under signed officer and received tenders will be opened on the same day at **3.30 PM.**

Any other information on this can be obtained from the office of the under signed officer on working days at Guindy National Park Campus. Contact No. 044-29505150

DIPR/5587/TENDER/2023 — **Wildlife Warden, Chennai - 600022.**

SOUTHERN RAILWAY
Thiruvananthapuram Division-Electrical/Works

Divisional Railway Manager/Electrical-Genl/Trivandrum Division for and on behalf of the President of India invites E-tender. On-line bids only will be accepted.

Tender Notice No	Name of Work	Value (Rs)	EMD (Rs)	Date of Opening
VEG OT-21-23-24	Sn1 IPN Creation of basic carriage and wagon maintenance infrastructure	34834011/-	324200/-	27.10.2023
	Sn2: Proposed garbage disposal by providing solid waste management plant at Kochuveli-Electrical arrangement.	2005757/-	40100/-	
	Sn3 TVC Division - Provision of Building Integrated Solar Power Plant	6184900/-	123700/-	
	SN4: TVC Division: Augmentation of power supply arrangement and pumping facility and modification of lighting and ventilation in stations.	12952798/-	214800/-	
V-EGSU-OT-009-23-24	Provision of mini IPS at various locations in TVC-QLN, ERS-KTYM/ALLP-KYJ & SRR-ERS sections of TVC Division-Electrical arrangement.	3277643/-	65600/-	
V-EG-OT-22-23-24	Outsourcing of operation, Escorting trouble shooting and A-check activities of 500KVA DG sets in power cars of Train No 12625/26 TVC-NDLS-TVC daily express for a period of two years.	9231580/-	184600/-	

Detailed NIT bidding document etc can be viewed/down-loaded from website portal **www.ireps.gov.in** EMD shall be made on-line gateway mode only. Addendum/ Corrigendum, time extension Clarification etc, if any, will be uploaded in website only. Bidders should regularly visit website to keep themselves updated.

Follow us on : twitter.com/GMSRailways

e-mail ID - supenger_rbjyp@yahoo.co.in; Phone No.-06854-231528
GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, JEYPORE (R&B) CIRCLE, JEYPORE.
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB)- Bid Identification No.C.C.E.J.C(R&B)-28/2023-24
No. 5302, Date. 11.10.2023

1.	Nature of the Work	: BRIDGE WORK
2.	Total No. of Works	: 01 (One) No.
3.	Estimated Cost	: Rs.9.07 Crs. as per work
4.	Period of completion	: 15 (Fifteen) Months as per work.
5.	Cost of Bid Document	: Rs.10,000/-
6.	Bid Security (EMD)	: Rs.9.07 lac (As per column no.06 of IFB)
7.	Class of Contractor	: "A" & "Special" Class as per cl no.05 of TCN & according to Financial Eligibility
8.	Date & time of availability of bid Document in the portal.	: From 11.00 hours of 16.10.2023 to 17.00 hours of 30.10.2023.
9.	Last date / Time for receipt of bids in the Portal.	: 17.00 hours of 30.10.2023.
10.	Opening date of Bid	: 10.00 hours of 31.10.2023
11.	Name and address of the Officer Inviting Bid	: Chief Construction Engineer, Jeypore (R&B) Circle, Jeypore.

Further details can be seen from the e-procurement portal https://tendersodisha.gov.in .
Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.

Chief Construction Engineer, Jeypore (R&B) Circle, Jeypore.
B-1080: OIPR-34108/11/0032/2324

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA, "e"- PROCUREMENT NOTICE
WORKS DEPARTMENT
E-mail : ceworldbankprojects@gmail.com
Bid Identification No. CE-W.B.P. (O) - 26 / 2023-24

1. The Chief Engineer (World Bank Project), Odisha on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites percentage rate bid in double cover system in ONLINE MODE from eligible contractors for construction of Road & Bridge work as detailed below :

2.	Nature of work	: Road Bridge work
3.	No. of work	: 03 nos.
4.	Tender Cost	: Rs.10,000.00 (on-line)
5.	Class of Contractor	: Special / Super Class Contractor
6.	Available of bid document in the website	: From 10.00 AM of 17.10.2023 to 5.00 PM of 15.11.2023
7.	Pre - Bid meeting	: Dt.26.10.2023
8.	Date of opening of Bid	: Dt.16.11.2023 at 11.30 AM

9. The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website : **https://tenderodisha.gov.in**. Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website.

Chief Engineer, World Bank Project, Odisha.
B-1084 : OIPR-34003/11/0044/2324

HERE TO STAY

'Didn't get captaincy because of one match, won't lose it for one'

Babar Azam does not believe that the outcome of the much-anticipated India-Pakistan clash in Ahmedabad on Saturday will have an impact on his captaincy. "I never worry that I will lose my captaincy because of this match. I didn't get the captaincy because of one match and I will not lose it for one match."

TUNING IN

Will be watching India's game against Pakistan, Bolt tells Kohli

Legendary sprinter Usain Bolt has told Virat Kohli that he will watch India's game against Pakistan. "You can be the fastest on the pitch, but I'm faster in the air. Will be watching your next game," Bolt posted on X (formerly Twitter). "Usain *paaji*! Getting ready for Saturday with a few extra 100m sprints if you're watching," replied Kohli.

CRICKET'S ACME

Hype, excitement make India vs Pakistan contest special: Bangar

Former Indian cricketer Sanjay Bangar feels that it is the hype and excitement around an India-Pakistan contest that makes it really special. "It's there in the back of every player's mind how important a match it is. I've even seen and heard of the relief some of the Indian greats have felt after the encounter against Pakistan," said Bangar.

DOMINATING SHOW

Gill named ICC 'Player of the Month' for September

Shubman Gill was named ICC 'Men's Player of the Month' for September after dominating a stretch of ODIs ahead of the World Cup. He held off Mohammed Siraj and England's Dawid Malan to claim the award after compiling 480 runs at an average of 80. Sri Lanka's Chamari Athapaththu took the honours for women.

India, Pakistan keen to outwit each other in heavy-duty clash

Though the hosts step in as the domineering outfit in ICC matches against their arch-rivals, the sides lock horns on the strength of two good wins under their belts; Gill is 99% available, says Rohit

ODI WORLD CUP

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
AHMEDABAD

A rivalry high on sporting magic and marinated in subcontinental history and angst on either side of the Radcliffe Line gets its latest instalment. India against Pakistan is cricket's emotional roller-coaster and since these matches are now restricted to ICC championships and the Asia Cup, the larger absence of these rousing contests surely makes the heart go fonder.

The Narendra Modi Stadium, earlier referred to as the Motera, is a gargantuan venue which matches the stratospheric hype that Saturday's World Cup fixture has already generated.

On Friday, roads leading to this massive edifice were clogged as expectant fans and alert security personnel milled around while the harsh sun was the kind that marketed protective skin creams. The blue jersey was flying off the pavements while patriotic slogans and the odd tribute to Virat Kohli provided the interlude.

India steps in as the domineering outfit, especially in ICC matches against its arch-rival. Meanwhile Pakistan strides in with the added confidence of having defeated The Netherlands and Sri Lanka.

India, having got past Australia and Afghanistan, too, has an unblemished record so far in this World Cup. That more than a lakh are expected to turn up and the surround-sound would include cultural performances before the game, gives an impression that the championship's organisers are doing a belated opening ceremony after having skipped the formality earlier!

Intense action: The Indians sweat it out ahead of a contest in which sparks could fly. K.R. DEEPAK

This rivalry, with its gun-shot sixes by Javed Miandad, Sachin Tendulkar and Kohli and the bureaucratic unease surrounding it, especially in the tardy issue of visas for journalists and fans, isn't for the faint-hearted.

The players might downplay the pressure and seek refuge in a shared love for Punjabi pop, but this remains the heavy-duty encounter stretching nerves and threatening nails.

India's batting is in order, gaining gradual heft. It is the same with Pakistan. The host also got a fillip as Rohit Sharma told the media that 'Shubman Gill is 99% available'.

The interplay, between rival skippers Rohit and Babar Azam or dogged opponents like Kohli and Mohammad Rizwan, would be interesting, and so would be their tussle against some of the finest speedsters: Jasprit Bumrah and Shaheen Afridi.

The surface with its black-soil base is supposed to nurse a soft corner for batters. And one of the most iconic images from the old Motera was that of Sunil Gavaskar essaying a late-cut off spinner Ijaz Faqih to be the first man to reach 10,000 runs in Tests.

This was in 1987 and since then much water has flowed down the Indus. When the neighbours face off again, people will hold their breath from Rawalpindi to Rameswaram. India against Pakistan, especially in cricket, is always war minus the shooting.

The teams (from):
India: Rohit Sharma (Capt.), K.L. Rahul, Virat Kohli, Shubman Gill, Shreyas Iyer, Suryakumar Yadav, Hardik Pandya, Ishan Kishan, Ravindra Jadeja, R. Ashwin, Jasprit Bumrah, Mohammed Shami, Mohammed Siraj, Shardul Thakur and Kuldeep Yadav.
Pakistan: Babar Azam (Capt.), Shadab Khan, Mohammad Rizwan, Imam-ul-Haq, Abdullah Shafique, Saud Shakeel, Fakhar Zaman, Haris Rauf, Hasan Ali, Iftikhar Ahmed, Mohammad Nawaz, Mohammad Wasim Jr, Agha Salman, Shaheen Afridi and Osama Mir.
Umpires: Richard Illingworth and Marais Erasmus; **Third umpire:** Richard Kettleborough; **Match referee:** Andrew Pycroft.
Match starts at 2 p.m.

Today's match

India vs. Pakistan
Ahmedabad, **2 p.m.**

EYE ON THE SKY
High: 36°C
Low: 24°C
Partly cloudy
SOURCE: IMD

H2H IN ODIs

	M	India	Pakistan	NR
Overall	134	56	73	5
In India	30	11	19	0
In World Cup	7	7	0	0

1992: India **won by 43 runs** (round-robin), Sydney
1996: India **won by 39 runs** (quarterfinal), Bengaluru
1999: India **won by 47 runs** (super six), Manchester
2003: India **won by six wickets** (group stage), Centurion
2011: India **won by 29 runs** (semifinal), Mohali
2015: India **won by 76 runs** (group stage), Adelaide
2019: India **won by 89 runs** (round-robin), Manchester

We are playing an opposition which has quality, says Rohit

K.C. Vijaya Kumar
AHMEDABAD

Rohit Sharma strode in and tried his best to tone down the external noise around Saturday's World Cup fixture involving India and Pakistan. In the pre-match press conference at the Narendra Modi Stadium here on Friday, the Indian skipper insisted that his men would treat this game in a manner similar to how they dealt with their previous encounters.

"Yes, it's a massive game. We are playing an opposition which has quality. We just have to play good cricket, which we have done in the last two games.

"Hopefully we can again show some consistency in our performance," Rohit said. "You feel nice about playing in front of your home crowd. They get behind you no matter what the situation of the game is. I look at this as a good advantage," he added.

> We are ready for whatever combination we want to play. If the requirement is there for us to play three spinners, we will play three spinners

> You feel nice about playing in front of your home crowd. They get behind you no matter what the situation of the game is. I look at this as a good advantage

The breaking news bit centred around Shubman Gill who has been recuperating from a bout of dengue. "99% he is available. We will see tomorrow," the Indian captain said.

'We are ready'

And when asked about the possibility of fielding three spinners, Rohit said: "I haven't looked at the pitch yet, but we are ready for whatever combination we want to play.

"If there is a change or two we need to make, we will be ready with that. If the requirement is there for us to play three spinners, we will play three spinners."

The opener, with a hundred against Afghanistan under his belt, remained unfazed about the dew-factor and emphasised that the toss will not be a factor.

Equally, Rohit refused to read much into India's superior record against Pakistan in ICC events: "I am not a person who looks into all these kinds of statistics. You want to play good cricket on that particular day to win the game."

The skipper was also happy that his players are in 'good rhythm'.

"It is always nice to go into any World Cup game with this kind of rhythm and confidence," he said.

Will he, won't he? India will take a call on fielding Gill for the marquee clash on Saturday morning. K.R. DEEPAK

Babar hopes his team gets some crowd support as in Hyderabad

Shayan Acharya
AHMEDABAD

It has been a couple of days since the Pakistan side landed here after spending around 10 days in Hyderabad. But even now, most of the team members' conversations revolve around the warmth and the hospitality they received in the city.

The Pakistan players had to be confined to their hotel rooms here because of security reasons and time constraints.

But even then, the players managed to taste some local cuisine with *fafda* and *jalebi* being the chart-toppers. "Yes, we tried some Gujarati food, but in the hotel... we are not going outside right now," said captain Babar Azam.

Trump card: Afridi will be central to Pakistan's plans. K.R. DEEPAK

When the arch-rivals meet at the Narendra Modi Stadium on Saturday, none of the Pakistan fans will be in attendance owing to visa issues. Only seven to eight journalists from across the border are expected to cover the game, but Babar hopes that just like Hyderabad, his team will get some support here as well.

"We got support in Hyderabad and are hopeful that the crowd will back us in Ahmedabad as well."

Well-rounded India has the edge in battle of equals

Sunil Gavaskar

The much-hyped and much-anticipated game between India and Pakistan is finally here.

Both teams will go into the game with level points in the tournament but the level of confidence for the hosts might well be higher than that of Pakistan.

That is not only because of their past record in the World Cups against Pakistan and the fact of having the home advantage but also for the manner in which they have won their first two matches. It's been a true all-round performance with the bowlers bowling splendidly to restrict the opposition and the batters having played some gritty stuff against Australia and sumptuous cricket against Afghanistan.

The fielding, which was a bit of a concern before the tournament, had also been top-class... so it's been a performance that's been of the highest quality.

Bumrah's comeback has been India's biggest gain. You now have a bowler who gets you wickets at the start, in the middle and also at the end of the innings. Kuldeep and Jadeja have also been excellent and Hardik keeps picking wickets at crucial times.

In batting too, with the skipper scoring a delightful century, Kohli continuing his good form and Rahul back to being the assertive batter that he was at the start of his career, the team won't be fazed by whatever they are chasing.

Opening problem

Pakistan, on the other hand, has a problem with the openers in batting and bowling.

Who will open the batting with the classy Abdullah Shafique in this crucial game ? When will Shaheen Shah Afridi and Haris Rauf get their rhythm back and how many runs their spinners will give is something that is a headache for Babar Azam.

His own form with the bat won't be a concern since Rizwan has batted splendidly and Saud Shakeel has shown good temperament.

That will ease the pressure on Babar and he can give himself time to get back into the big scoring form that is expected of him. The Pakistan fielding will also have to lift itself up, for in a contest of this nature, it's the fielding that can make the difference between winning and losing the game.

(*Professional Management Group*)

Mitchell's enterprise, Williamson's poise help Kiwis soar again

Bangladesh batters fail to convert starts into big knocks, with only Mushfiqur coming up with an half-century; Ferguson's three-wicket haul instrumental in New Zealand restricting the Asian side to 245 which proves insufficient

ODI WORLD CUP

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

The orchestrators: Mitchell built on the solidity provided by Williamson as New Zealand coasted to victory. R. RAGU

Playing his first competitive international game in nearly seven months after knee surgery, Kane Williamson did what he does best – shepherd a tricky chase with a masterly knock (78 retd. hurt, 108b, 8x4, 1x6) as New Zealand completed an eight-wicket win over Bangladesh here at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium on Friday.

In pursuit of 246, the Black Caps lost opener Rachin Ravindra early before Williamson and Devon Conway weathered a fine spell of pace bowling by the left-arm seamers Mustafizur Rahman and Shoriful Islam.

Uncharacteristic pitch

On an uncharacteristic Chepauk pitch that was more friendly to the seamers with bounce and pace, Williamson was cautious at the beginning before he wielded his trademark strokes. He started with a cut over point before a backfoot punch through covers off Shoriful to get going after being two off 19 balls at one point.

From there on, it was a typical Williamson knock, with deft late cuts, paddles over fine leg and use of feet to loft Shakib Al Hasan over the leg-side.

However, the New Zealand skipper retired hurt when he copped a blow on his left thumb from a throw at the bowler's end while completing a single.

He hung around for an over before walking off in pain, but not before he had put his side firmly in the driver's seat with a 108-run stand (109 balls) with Daryl Mitchell for the third wicket.

Mitchell rode his luck initially – his mistimed slices either falling short or out of reach of fielders on the ropes – to finish with an unbeaten 89 (67b, 6x4, 4x6) to seal New Zealand's third consecutive win of the World Cup.

Earlier, electing to field first, New Zealand restricted Bangladesh to 245 for nine, thanks to Lockie Ferguson's fiery spell (three for 49) of fast bowling in which he used the short-pitched stuff to good effect.

Bangladesh started poorly, losing Litton Das off the first ball to Trent Boult before Ferguson struck twice in quick succession as the Asian team slumped to 56 for four.

He first had Tanzid Hasan flicking a half-volley to square leg before bouncing out Mehidy Hasan Miraz, caught at fine-leg, attempting a pull.

Mushfiqur Rahim (66) bailed his side out with a fine half-century and stitched a 96-run stand with Shakib. But Ferguson struck again to bounce out the Bangladesh skipper.

Later, Mahmudullah's unbeaten 41 helped the Tigers get to just about par score, but it was not enough to avoid a second straight defeat.

SCOREBOARD

BANGLADESH
Litton Das c Henry b Boult 0 *(1b)*, Tanzid Hasan c Conway b Ferguson 16 *(17b, 4x4)*, Mehidy Hasan Miraz c Henry b Ferguson 30 *(46b, 4x4)*, Najmul Hossain Shanto c Conway b Phillips 7 *(8b, 1x4)*, Shakib Al Hasan c Latham b Ferguson 40 *(51b, 3x4, 2x6)*, Mushfiqur Rahim b Henry 66 *(75b, 6x4, 2x6)*, Towhid Hridoy c Santner b Boult 13 *(25b)*, Mahmudullah (not out) 41 *(49b, 2x4, 2x6)*, Taskin Ahmed c Mitchell b Santner 17 *(19b, 2x6)*, Mustafizur Rahman c Latham b Henry 4 *(10b)*, Shoriful Islam (not out) 2 *(3b)*; Extras (lb-1, w-4, nb-4): 9; Total (for nine wkts. in 50 overs) 245.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-0 (Litton, 0.1 overs), 2-40 (Tanzid, 7.6), 3-56 (Mehidy, 11.4), 4-56 (Najmul, 12.1), 5-152 (Shakib, 29.5), 6-175 (Mushfiqur, 35.5), 7-180 (Hridoy, 37.5), 8-214 (Taskin, 44.6), 9-225 (Mustafizur, 47.6).

NEW ZEALAND BOWLING
Boult 10-0-45-2, Henry 10-0-58-2, Ferguson 10-0-49-3, Santner 10-1-31-1, Phillips 2-0-13-1, Ravindra 7-0-37-0, Mitchell 1-0-11-0.

NEW ZEALAND
Devon Conway lbw b Shakib 45 *(59b, 3x4)*, Rachin Ravindra c Mushfiqur b Mustafizur 9 *(13b, 2x4)*, Kane Williamson retired hurt 78 *(107b, 8x4, 1x6)*, Daryl Mitchell (not out) 89 *(67b, 6x4, 4x6)*, Glenn Phillips (not out) 16 *(11b, 1x4, 1x6)*; Extras (lb-1, w-10): 11; Total (for two wkts. in 42.5 overs): 248.

FALL OF WICKETS
1-12 (Ravindra, 2.4), 2-92 (Conway, 20.1).

BANGLADESH BOWLING
Mustafizur 8-0-36-1, Shoriful 7.5-1-43-0, Taskin 8-0-56-0, Shakib 10-0-54-1, Mehidy 9-0-58-0.

Toss: New Zealand.
PoM: Ferguson.
New Zealand won by eight wickets with 43 balls to spare.

Next assignment

NEW ZEALAND: October 18 vs. **Afghanistan,** *Chennai, 2 p.m.*

BANGLADESH: October 19 vs. **India,** *Pune, 2 p.m.*

The guys have been clinical in their execution, says Boult

Anish Pathiyil
CHENNAI

Back with a bang: Ferguson, who returned to the side, made his presence felt with three crucial strikes. R. RAGU

Trent Boult lauded New Zealand's "clinical" performance after the team sprinted to its third successive victory in the ODI World Cup with an eight-wicket win over Bangladesh here on Friday.

"I had said earlier that the challenge will be moving around the country with different wickets. The guys have been clinical so far, delivering the plans we spoke about with the ball... the batting is going nicely as well," Boult said.

"There is still a lot of cricket to come but it is a good position (three wins from three) to be in," he added.

Proud of 200

"I am very proud of it as it has come with a bit of hard work," said Boult about crossing 200 ODI wickets during the contest. "I have enjoyed ODI cricket. It's a very good feeling to tick off 200 and [be the] third-fastest which is pretty exciting," he said.

Boult was delighted to have Kane Williamson back in the side and also had words of appreciation for the skipper's knock. Willamson, however, had to return to the pavilion retired hurt after copping a blow to his glove while completing a run.

"It's great to have Kane back. [He is a] key player. The guy is very comfortable at the crease and familiar with how he wants to play his cricket," said Boult. The team confirmed that Williamson will head for a scan on Saturday to know the extent of injury.

"He plays good cricketing shots and puts pressure on the bowlers... that is a pretty good recipe," the left-arm speedster added.

> Lockie plays a huge role for us. The guy can bowl 150kmph and is clever with his plans
> **BOULT**
> on Ferguson

Lockie Ferguson was adjudged Player-of-the-match for his three-wicket haul and Boult emphasised his importance to the bowling attack.

"Lockie plays a huge role for us. The guy can bowl 150kmph and is clever with his plans," Boult said. "He likes to attack in the role that he is in and, hopefully, he's going to play a big role for us in the next couple of weeks."

Bangladesh vice-captain Najmul Hossain Shanto said a better batting performance could have helped his side take the contest deep.

"I think we did not bat well. If we had managed to get to a score of 280 or more, we would have had a chance," Shanto said.

Points table

	M	W	L	PTS	NRR
New Zealand	3	3	0	6	1.604
South Africa	2	2	0	4	2.360
India	2	2	0	4	1.500
Pakistan	2	2	0	4	0.927
England	2	1	1	2	0.553
Bangladesh	3	1	2	2	-0.699
Sri Lanka	2	0	2	0	-1.161
Netherlands	2	0	2	0	-1.800
Australia	2	0	2	0	-1.846
Afghanistan	2	0	2	0	-1.907

Team combination gives India upper hand: Viswanath

Adrenaline rush: Suryakumar at a training session ahead of the India-Pakistan game. K.R. DEEPAK

Shayan Acharya
AHMEDABAD

India enjoys an enviable 7-0 record against Pakistan in ODI World Cups. But, as the two fiercest competitors meet at the Narendra Modi Stadium on Saturday, former India batting great G.R. Viswanath believes that the home team should start afresh and not dwell on past records.

"It's a new tournament, and the Indian team looks solid in every aspect, but then they should not think about the past record (of having won all seven games), and start afresh. Those records are history now," Viswanath said on Friday.

Viswanath believes that the overall team combination gives India the edge. "Both teams have had good games so far, having won the first couple of fixtures. But India enjoys the upper hand, not because of the 7-0 record, but because of its team combination," he said.

"Our bowlers have done well. Returning from injury, (Jasprit) Bumrah has bowled superbly in the last two games, and now that he picked up four wickets against Afghanistan, it will give a lot of confidence not only to him, but also to the other bowlers.

"In the last game, Rohit scored a hundred and Kohli is always getting runs. Everything put together, India has the advantage."

India loses to Malaysia, crashes out

MERDEKA CUP

Press Trust of India
KUALA LUMPUR

India lost 2-4 to host Malaysia in the opening match, a virtual semifinal, to bow out of the three-team Merdeka Cup football tournament here on Friday.

Malaysia took the lead in the seventh minute through Dion Cools before Naorem Mahesh Singh equalised for India with a beautiful volley in the 13 minute.

Arif Amin then increased the lead for Malaysia with 20th minute penalty and Faisal Halim increased the scoreline to 3-1 four minutes from half time.

India captain Sunil Chhetri pulled a goal back in the 52nd minute to reduce the margin. Five minutes later, a huge controversy broke out when Lallianzuala Chhangte was denied the equaliser.

Chhangte got the ball inside the box and his shot deflected off Ahmad's body and it crossed the goal-line before a clearance from Cools but the referee thought otherwise.

India coach Igor Stimac and the entire team looked furious with the decision and understandably so as replays clearly showed the ball indeed crossed the line. Corbin Ong rounded off the tally from close range in the 61st minute.

Malaysia take on Tajikistan in the final on October 17.

The result: Malaysia 4 (Cools 7, Amin 20, Halim 41, Ong 61) bt India 2 (Mahesh 13, Chhetri 52).

IOC approves T20 cricket for 2028 LA Olympics; compound archery misses out on a berth

GENERAL

Agencies
MUMBAI

Cricket is all set to feature in the 2028 Olympics as the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) Executive Board on Friday approved the proposal of Los Angeles Games organisers to include the sport in the programme.

Apart from cricket, which will be played in T20 format for men and women, four other sports – baseball-softball, flag football, lacrosse (sixes) and squash – also got the nod of the IOC Executive Board which met here with president Thomas Bach chairing it.

The proposal will be put to vote during the IOC session which begins here on Sunday.

However, there was some disappointment for Indian sports fans as it was confirmed that compound archery would find no place in the Games. In June last year, World Archery had proposed to the IOC for the inclusion of compound archery, which was not in the programme.

Growing popularity

"We see growing popularity of cricket, particularly the T20 format. The World Cup (50 overs) is a huge success already," said Bach during the media briefing after the conclusion of the two-day Executive Board meeting.

Bach said the IOC was looking forward to working with the International Cricket Council (ICC) for expanding the sport beyond its traditional bases.

Holding court: Bach chairing the IOC Executive Board meeting in Mumbai on Friday. IOC

"We will work with the ICC as we do in all sports. We are not working with different national franchises here, we are working with respective international federations and looking forward to receiving their ideas (as to) how to use this inclusion in the Olympic programme to make cricket even more popular across the globe," he said.

Win-win situation

"This is a win-win situation. The Olympic games will give cricket a global stage and the opportunity to grow beyond the traditional cricket countries and regions, with the Olympic movement," Bach said.

Bach also said the IOC is still in the proposal mode as far as it was deciding about the number of teams and qualification. "We are still in the proposal mode. We will first need the word of the (IOC) Session in the coming days," Bach said.

The Los Angeles Games organising committee had proposed a six-team event, in both men's and women's T20 cricket, with the United States set to field sides as the host nation. But, final decisions on the number of teams and qualification system will be taken later.

IOC's sports director Kit McConnell said that the IOC was satisfied with the ICC as far as their compliance with the anti-doping regulations are concerned.

"The importance of the ICC is that it is the governing body of cricket, (as) the international federation of cricket. The ICC is code-compliant," he said.

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CRICKET WORLD CUP
TRIVIA CHALLENGE
1. Who kept wickets for Pakistan during the 2003 ODI World Cup game against India at Centurion after wicket-keeper Rashid Latif was injured?
2. Which Srilankan bowler dismissed Sourav Ganguly for 183 in the 1999 ODI World Cup game at Taunton?
3. Which Srilankan batsman scored a century in the 1996 ODI World Cup final?
Visit bit.ly/wctcterms to read the Terms & Conditions.
Scan the QR code to participate in the quiz. Top 3 winners each day will win exciting gift vouchers
Answer to yesterday's quiz:
1. Mitchell Starc
2. 2011
3. 8

Neeraj in the running for 'World Athlete of Year' award

The champion javelin thrower is among the 11 nominees for the prestigious honour and five finalists would be decided by three-way voting process

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Olympic and World champion javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra was on Thursday named as one of the 11 nominees for the 2023 men's 'World Athlete of the Year' award. The nominees were selected by an international panel of athletics experts, comprising representatives from all six continental areas of World Athletics.

A three-way voting process will determine the finalists. The World Athletics Council and the World Athletics Family will cast their votes by email, while fans can vote online via the World Athletics social media platforms.

Icing on the cake: It would be great way to cap off a rewarding season if Neeraj goes on to win WA's big award. AFP

Individual graphics for each nominee will be posted on Facebook, X, Instagram and YouTube this week; a 'like' on Facebook, Instagram and YouTube or a retweet on X will count as one vote. Voting for the World Athletes of the Year closes at midnight of October 28.

At the conclusion of the voting process, five women and five men finalists will be announced on November 13-14. The winners will be revealed on World Athletics' social media platforms on December 11.

Other nominees: Ryan Crouser (shot put, USA), Mondo Duplantis (pole vault, Sweden), Soufiane El Bakkali (3000m steeplechas, Morocco), Jakob Ingebrigtsen (1500m/5000m, Norway); Kelvin Kiptum (marathon, Kenya), Pierce LePage (decathlon, Canada), Noah Lyles (sprints, USA), Alvaro Martin (walking, Spain), Miltiadis Tentoglou (long jump, Greece) and Karsten Warholm (400m hurdles, Norway).

Mirabai going through rehab following her Asiad injury

WEIGHTLIFTING

Y.B. Sarangi
KOLKATA

World and Olympic silver medallist lifter Mirabai Chanu is going through three weeks' rehab at Patiala and will resume her training soon, according to chief coach Vijay Sharma.

Seeking her maiden Asiad medal, 29-year-old Mirabai injured her right thigh during the Hangzhou Asian Games and managed just two lifts out of six attempts to total a below-par 191kg and finish fourth in the women's 49kg category.

After consulting well known sports injury expert Dr. Dinshaw Pardiwala in Mumbai and going through several tests, the ace lifter got to know that she had 'tendonitis' (when a tendon is inflamed).

Road to recovery: Mirabai will resume training after her period of rest gets over. REUTERS

"Thankfully, there is no muscle tear. There is tendonitis near the hip joint. It's not a serious issue. Mirabai has been advised three weeks' rest and some medication. One week is gone, two are left. She is just taking rest and doing her rehab, there's no training," said Sharma.

"After the rehab we will slowly increase the load and prepare for the Asian championships. We have a lot of time in hand."

The Asian championships, an Olympic qualifying event, will be held in Tashkent from February 3 to 10 next year.

Alastair Cook to retire from cricket

Agence France-Presse
LONDON

Former England captain Alastair Cook announced his retirement from cricket on Friday. The left-handed opener's 12,472 Test runs is the most by any English batter and fifth in the all-time list.

After retiring from international duty in 2018, he carried on playing for Essex and won the County Championship in 2019. However, his contract expired at the end of the recently completed domestic season and Cook has decided against playing on.

"It is not easy to say goodbye," Cook said in a statement. "For more than two decades, cricket has been so much more than my job. It is the right time for this part of my life to come to an end.

O Hansini wins feature event

MYSURU: Rakesh-trained O Hansini (Akshay Kumar up) won the Benaka Developers Mysore Dasara Sprint Championship, the chief event of the races held here on Friday (Oct 13). The winner is owned by Mrs. Namrataa Rakesh.

1. LALITHAMAHAL PLATE: SULTAN SWORD (Angad) 1, Double Vision (Shreyas S) 2, Royal Title (Darshan) 3 and Pette's Choice (Jagadeesh) 4. 2-1/2, 2 and Snk. 1m, 25.67s. ₹19 (w), 11, 12 and 17 (P), SHP: 26, THP: 45, FP: 33, Q: 26, Trinella: 271, Exacta: 501. Favourite: Sultan Sword. Owner and Trainer: Mr. Poorna Chandra Tejeswi.

2. LOKAPAVANI PLATE (DIV. II): SOLID POWER (Salman Khan) 1, Elevado (A.K. Aniket) 2, Natural Hunter (Shreyas S) 3 and D Warrior (Md. Mushraf) 4. 3/4, 6-3/4 and Nk. 1m, 26.27s. ₹82 (w), 14, 10 and 16 (p), SHP: 32, THP: 44, FP: 135, Q: 70, Trinella: 661, Exacta: 6,714 (c/o). Favourite: Elevado. Owner: Mr. H.R. Pai. Trainer: M.R. Singh.

3. TRIVENI PLATE: KINGOFTHEJUNGLE (M. Rajesh K) 1, Spiritual Force (Shreyas S) 2, Ineffable (A.K. Aniket) 3 and Flash Bond (Shezad Khan) 4. Not run: Gold Crest and Real Show. 4-1/4, 1-1/4 and 3-3/4. 1m, 11.40s. ₹15 (w), 10, 14 and 14 (p). SHP: 19, THP: 36, FP: 40, Q: 39, Trinella: 139, Exacta: 3,310. Favourite: Kingofthejungle. Owner: The Estate of late Mr. Gnandeva Rao. Trainer: V. Appachu.

4. URS KAR TROPHY: VIJAYA FALCON (Akshay K) 1, Tracer Bullet (Shehzad Khan) 2, Wild Spell (T. Pavan) 3 and Dandi Satyagraha (R.S. Bhati) 4. Not run: Contributor. 3/4, 1-1/2 and 2-1/2. 1m, 11.08s. ₹19 (w), 11, 26 and 13 (p), SHP: 116, THP: 29, FP: 555, Q: 414, Trinella: 1,567, Exacta: 6,732. Favourite: Vijaya Falcon. Owner: Mr. Arvind Raj. M. Trainer: Joseph B.

5. BENAKA DEVELOPERS MYSORE DASARA SPRINT CHAMPIONSHIP: O HANSINI (Akshay K) 1, All Attractive (S. John) 2, Agnostic (Antony) 3 and Priceless Gold (S. Saqlain) 4. Shd, Lnk and 1-1/4. 1m, 11.44s. ₹33 (w), 11 and 12 (p). SHP: 48, THP: 31, FP: 90, Q: 54, Trinella: 151, Exacta: 443. Favourite: All Attractive. Owner: Mrs. Namrataa Rakesh. Trainer: Rakesh.

6. KARAPUR PLATE: BENGHAZI (Angad) 1, Armstrong (Akshay K) 2, Winter Storm (M. Rajesh K) 3 and Lucky Point (Salman Khan) 4. Not run: Herodotus. 3/4, 2 and 5-1/2. 1m, 24.25s. ₹21 (w), 13, 10 and 12 (p), SHP: 29, THP: 27, FP: 43, Q: 16, Trinella: 160, Exacta: 512. Favourite: Armstrong. Owner: The Estate of late Gnandeva Rao. Trainer: V. Appachu.

7. LOKAPAVANI PLATE (DIV.I): FORTUNATUS (T. Pavan) 1, Magic Circle (A.K. Aniket) 2, Wind Whistler (M. Rajesh K) 3 and Free Spirited (Faiz) 4. Not run: Empyrian. 7, 8 and 1. 1m, 24.50s. ₹55 (w), 13, 12 and 119 (p), SHP: 33, THP: 267, FP: 203, Q: 66, Trinella: 4,187, Exacta: 8,749 (c/o). Favourite: Magic Circle. Owners: Mr. A. Aryama Sundaram, Mr. P.J. Vazifdar and Mr. M. Rishad. Trainer: Imtiaz Khan.

Jackpot: ₹5,135 (three tkts.); Runner Up: 388 (17 tkts.); Mini Jackpot: 1,301 (c/o): Treble (i): 458 (three tkts.); (ii): 506 (four tkts.).

Gavit wins men's 5000m in a race that had an odd finish

NATIONAL ATHLETICS

Ashwin Achal
BENGALURU

The men's 5,000m event at the 62nd National Open athletics championships here on Friday witnessed an odd finish.

Six runners in the leader group entered the home stretch together, but as the finish line approached, none of them seemed to make a concentrated effort to break away and get the win.

The run was eventually won by Murli Gavit (14:08.49s), followed by Gaurav Mathur (14:08.54s) and Sachelal Patel (14:08.56s).

Golden leap: P. David of Tamil Nadu, winner of the men's long jump. K. MURALI KUMAR

Only 0.25s separated Gavit from sixth-placed Shadab Pathan, which made the half-hearted final effort all the more curious. There were also six runners who did not finish the run, and ten others who did not start.

This was in direct contrast to the women's 5,000m, where Ankita (Railways), Seema (Himachal Pradesh) and Drastiben Chaudhri (Gujarat) pulled out all the stops in search of glory. It took a terrific late surge from Ankita to help grab the gold medal.

Tamil Nadu's P. David won the men's long jump with a best effort of 7.78m.

The 21-year-old has continued his good run, having won gold at the Federation Cup gold and silver at the Indian Grand Prix earlier this year.

The results: Winners: Men: 5,000m: Murli Gavit (Gujarat), 14:08.49s.
4x400m relay: Services Sports Control Board (SSCB), 3:08.08s.
Long jump: P. David (Tamil Nadu), 7.78m.
High jump: Bharathi Viswanathan (SSCB), 2.18m,
Hammer throw: Taranveer Bains (SSCB), 66.41m.
Shot put: Sahib Singh (ONGC), 18.96m.
Women: 5,000m: Ankita (Railways), 16:10.05s, **4x400m relay:** Railways, 3:37.82s, **Triple jump:** Mallala Anusha (Andhra Pradesh), 13.40m.
Pole vault: Pavithra Venkatesh (Railways), 4.05m, **Discus throw:** Nidhi (Railways), 52.86m.

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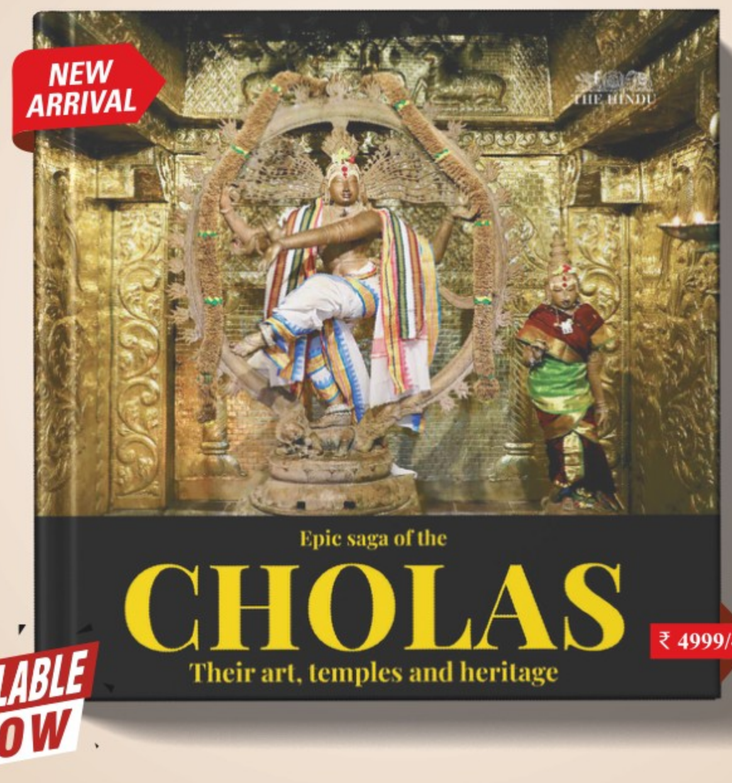

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INBRIEF

Neeraj pledges his support to Laureus Sport for Good

Neeraj Chopra, the reigning Olympic, World and Asian champion in men's javelin, named Laureus Ambassador has pledged his support to Laureus Sport for Good's programmes. Fellow ambassador Yuvraj Singh said he was looking forward to interacting with Neeraj about the ideas to make a difference in India and beyond.

India pulls out of World Cadet chess championship

The Indian team has pulled out of the World Cadet chess championship scheduled to start at Sharm el Sheikh from Saturday in the wake of the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict, fearing it could jeopardise the safety of the players and officials. 39 players from India were supposed to compete in the tournament, the venue of which is less than 400km from the Israel border.

Hyderabad races for October 17 cancelled

The Stewards of the Hyderabad Race Club (HRC) have resolved to cancel the 22nd day of Hyderabad monsoon races scheduled to be held on Tuesday (Oct. 17), due to paucity of acceptors.

LIVE TELECAST

Men's Cricket World Cup: Star Sports 1 (SD & HD) & Hotstar, 2 p.m.

ATP: Shanghai Masters, Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 2 & 5.30 p.m.

Euro 2024: European Qualifiers, Sony Sports Ten 2 (SD & HD) & LIV, 6.30, 9.30 p. m. & Sony Sports Ten 5 (SD & HD) & LIV, 12.15 a. m. (Sunday)

Brazil held by a late Venezuela equaliser; Argentina downs a determined Paraguay

Uruguay fights back for a draw against Colombia with a stoppage time penalty; Chile prevails over Peru and Ecuador gets its first points

WC QUALIFYING

Agence France-Presse
MONTEVIDEO

A stunning 85th-minute equaliser from Eduard Bello earned Venezuela a rare draw at Brazil while World champion Argentina made it three wins out of three in South American World Cup qualifying with a hard-earned 1-0 win over a determined Paraguay on Thursday.

Darwin Nunez struck a stoppage time penalty as Uruguay fought back for a 2-2 draw with Colombia in Barranquilla while Ecuador got its first points with a last gasp 2-1 win at Bolivia and Chile beat Peru 2-0.

A third-minute goal from Nicolas Otamendi was just enough for Lionel Scaloni's Argentina, with Lionel Messi coming off in the bench in the second half and hitting the woodwork twice.

Brazil has never lost to Venezuela in a competitive fixture and has only once before, in 2009, failed to beat the Vinotinto in World Cup qualifying, but it was left frustrated after Bello's brilliant late leveller.

Brazil took the lead when Neymar had a shot pushed wide in the 49th minute and from the resulting corner, taken by the striker, Arsenal defender Gabriel rose at the near post to angle home a fine header.

The result leaves Brazil in second place in the 10-team qualifying standings, two ahead of Colombia and two behind Argentina.

Colombia paid the price for squandering a series of chances to put the game to bed after taking a 2-1 lead in the 52nd minute through Mateus Uribe.

The results: Colombia 2 (Rodriguez 35, Uribe 52) drew with Uruguay 2 (Olivera 47, Nunez 90+1 pen); Bolivia 1 (Ramallo 83) lost to Ecuador 2 (Paez 45, Rodriguez 90+6); Argentina 1 (Otamendi 3) bt Paraguay 0. Chile 2 (Contreras 74, Lopez 90+1 og) bt Peru 0; Brazil 1 (Gabriel 50) drew with Venezuela (Bello 85).

On level terms: Bello peels off on a celebratory run after scoring Venezuela's equaliser. AFP

Spain, Norway hold up Scotland's push

EURO QUALIFYING

Agence France-Presse
PARIS

Scotland missed its first chance to seal a Euro 2024 berth as it lost to two late goals in Spain on Thursday as the third contender in Group A, Norway, won 4-0 in Cyprus.

Scotland had won all five of its group games and entered Thursday's match in Seville needing one point from three matches to qualify.

Morata celebrates. AFP

The results: Group A: Cyprus 0 lost to Norway 4 (Sorloth 33, Haaland 65, 72, Aursnes 81); Spain 2 (Morata 73, Sancet 86) bt Scotland 0.
Group D: Latvia 2 (Ikaunieks 39, Balodis 68) bt Armenia 0; Croatia 0 lsot to Turkey 1 (Baris Alper Yilmaz 30).
Group E: Albania 3 (Asani 9, Seferi 51, 73) bt Czech Republic 0; Faroe Islands 0 lost to Poland 2 (Szymanski 4, Buksa 65).
Group I: Andorra 0 lost to Kosovo 3 (Rashica 26, 71, Zeqiri 83); Belarus 0 drew with Romania 0.

Jithin nets a brace as Kerala posts a thumping win over Jammu & Kashmir

SANTOSH TROPHY

Sports Bureau

Midfielder Jithin Gopalakrishnan scored twice as Kerala crushed Jammu and Kashmir 6-1 for its second win in the Group 'A' league of the 77th Santosh Trophy National football championship at the SAG Benaulim Ground, Benaulim, here on Friday.

Kerala, which blanked Gujarat 3-0 in its opener on Wednesday, is now on top of the five-team group with six points from two wins.

Meanwhile, host Goa was forced to a 1-1 draw by Gujarat. That result should now make Kerala a favourite to top the top.

The group topper will automatically qualify for the 12-team main phase which will be held in Arunachal Pradesh later this year.

Three of the best second-placed teams from the six groups will also enter the final phase and joining them will be defending champion Karnataka, last edition's runner-up Meghalaya and host Arunachal Pradesh.

Two-goal hero: Kerala midfielder Jithin Gopalakrishnan, centre, tries to shake off his markers. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

The results (league): Group A (at Benaulim): Kerala 6 (Jithin Gopalakrishnan 8 & 55; E. Sajeesh 14, Muhammed Ashiq Shoukathali 45+1, K. Abdu Raheem 67, Riswanali Edakkavil 74) bt Jammu & Kashmir 1 (Faizal Maqsood Thakur 61). Goa 1 (Jobern Cardozo 90+9) drew with Gujarat 1 (Chunsaba Bariam 58).
Group B (at Banga and Phagwara): Odisha 5 (Chandra Muduli 16 & 40; Fagu Hembram 22, Arpan Lakra 81, Raisen Tudu 87) bt Ladakh 0; Delhi 1 (Mohit Mittal 32) bt Punjab 0; Haryana 0 drew with West Bengal 0.
Group F (at Kolhapur): Maharashtra 8 (Nikhil Kadam 19 & 21, Himanshu Patil 27 & 45; Johnson Joseph Mathews 30, Advait 59, Dhurwesh Nijap 67, Sanket Salokhe 78, bt Andaman & Nicobar 0; Tripura 1 (Sanjib Shil 86) bt Andhra Pradesh 0; Telangana 0 drew with Lakshadweep 0.

Belagavi division athletes take the top honours on day two

DASARA CM CUP

C.K. Muralidharan
MYSURU

Belagavi division's athletes – men with four gold & one bronze, women with three gold & two silver medals – took the top honours on the second day of the athletic events in the Prathibhaneveshana Dasara CM Cup, at the Chamundivihar stadium here on Friday.

Belagavi leads the medals table with twelve golds, five silver and one bronze medal closely followed by host Mysuru with ten golds, 12 silver and two bronze.

K.M. Archana (Bengaluru City) won the 3000m gold following her 1500m gold on the first day. In men's swimming, L. Manikanta of Bengaluru Rural with four golds (20 points) emerged as the individual champion, while V. Preetha (Bengaluru City) with four golds & one silver (23 points) took the women's title.

The results (winners only):
Athletics: Men: 200m: Prasanna Kumar (Belagavi, 22.08s),

K.M. Archana (1500m & 3000m winner).

L. Manikanta (Bengaluru Rural, men's individual champion).

V. Preetha (Bengaluru City, women's individual champion).

110mH: Akash (Mysuru, 15.77s), **5000m:** Govinda Halagi (Belagavi, 15:37.88s), **Shot Put:** Ganesh Nagappa Gouda (Mysuru, 13.32m), **800m:** Vinayaka Angadi (Belagavi, 1:55.91s), **Long Jump:** Pruthvi Seregar (Bengaluru City, 7.12m), **4x400m Relay:** Belagavi (3:20.27s).

Women: 3000m: K.M. Archana (Bengaluru City, 10:10.43s), **200m:** Monika R (Bengaluru Rural, 26.21s), **100mH:** Keerti B. Sangannavar (Belagavi, 16.22s), **Long Jump:** Swetha Poojary (Mysuru, 5.33m), **800m:** Jyothi Kattimani (Belagavi, 2:23.02s), **Shot Put:** Navya K. Bhat (Belagavi, 10.62m), **4x400 Relay:** Mysuru (4: 03.53s).

Games: Men: Football: Bengaluru City bt Belagavi 1-0, Bengaluru Rural drew with Mysuru 2-2, Kalburgi bt Belagavi 1-0, Kalburgi bt Mysuru 5-0.

Hockey: Belagavi bt Kalburgi 10-0, Bengaluru City bt Belagavi 9-1, Mysuru bt Kalburgi 8-0.

Net ball: Bengaluru City bt Kalburgi 32-25, Bengaluru Rural bt Bengaluru City 33-27, Kalburgi bt Mysuru 28-25, Bengaluru Rural bt Belagavi 30-21, Bengaluru City bt Mysuru 29-19, Belagavi bt Mysuru 32-19.

Badminton: Quarterfinals: Bengaluru City bt Mysuru City 2-1.

Kabaddi: Mysuru bt Bengaluru Rural 48-28.

Kho-kho: Bengaluru Rural bt Kalburgi 17-4, Mysuru bt Belagavi 11-0.

Basketball: Bengaluru Rural bt Belagavi 49-44, Mysuru bt Bengaluru Rural 42-11.

Women: Basketball: Mysuru bt Bengaluru Rural 42-11, Bengaluru Rural bt Belagavi 49-44, Belagavi bt Kalburgi 21-6, Mysuru bt Kalburgi 37-6.

Hockey: Bengaluru Rural bt Kalburgi 9-0, Bengaluru City bt Belagavi 23-0, Bengaluru Rural bt Belagavi 24-0.

Netball: Bengaluru Rural bt Belagavi 32-9, Bengaluru City bt Kalburgi 23-3, Mysuru bt Belagavi 11-8, Bengaluru Rural bt Kalburgi 14-2, Mysuru bt Kalburgi 12-4, Bengaluru City bt Bengaluru Rural 35-20, Bengaluru Rural bt Mysuru 25-18.

Kabaddi: Mysuru bt Bengaluru City 40-13, Bengaluru City bt Belagavi 35-32.

Badminton: Semifinals: Bengaluru City bt Belagavi 2-0.
Quarterfinals: Mysuru bt Kalburgi 2-0.

Handball: Bengaluru Rural bt Mysuru 17-6, Bengaluru City bt Bengaluru Rural 15-9.

Yoga: 1. Belagavi, 2. Mysuru, 3. Bengaluru Rural.

BENGALURU ROUND-UP

Veda at the helm for BCCI Senior Women's T20 Trophy

Veda Krishnamurthy will lead Karnataka in the BCCI Senior Women's T20 Trophy to be held in Vadodara from October 19 to 30.

The team: Veda Krishnamurthy (Capt.), Shreyanka R. Patil, Divya Gnanananda, Vrinda Dinesh, Roshini Kiran, Prathyoosha Kumar, C. Prathyusha, Shishira A. Gowda, Pushpa Kiresur, Sahana S. Pawar, G.R. Prerana, Chandasi Krishnamurthy, Sanjana H. Batni, Rameshwari Gayakwad, P. Rohitha Chowdry.

MEG thrashes Young Challengers

Shaik Muzeeb scored a hat-trick as MEG & Center FC thrashed Young Challengers 8-0 in the BDFA Super Division football league here on Friday.

The results: Kickstart FC 1 (Aenam Graffenberg Jurwa 52) bt Roots FC 0; MEG & Center FC 8 (Shaik Muzeeb 42, 44, 73, Sarath Narayanan 47, 88, Imnaakum Temsu 59, 71, V. Prathab 77) bt Young Challengers FC 0.

Brace by Rosy in Roots' win

Rosy Thanga scored a brace in Roots Football Club's 4-0 win over Pink Panthers FC in the Karnataka Women's League here on Friday. In another match, Maatru Pratishtana beat Rebels Women's FC 3-0.

The results: Maatru Pratishtana FC 3 (V. Dharshini 48, Nishanthi 77, D. Janani 84) bt Rebels Women's FC 0.

Roots Football Club 4 (Rosy Thanga 38, 49, Sanjita Niroula 42, Aaanya Mody 90+3) bt Pink Panthers FC 0.

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